

TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNOR OF PORTO RICO



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
TRANSMITTING THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE GOVERNOR OF PORTO RICO FOR THE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1928



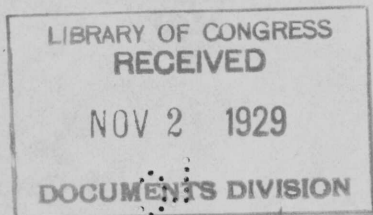
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HOUSE DOCUMENT NO. 411
TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE GOVERNOR OF
PORTO RICO

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MESSAGE

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 12 of the act of Congress of March 2, 1917, entitled "An act to provide a civil government for Porto Rico, and for other purposes," I transmit herewith, for the information of the Congress, the twenty-eighth annual report of the Governor of Porto Rico, including the reports of the heads of the several departments of the government of Porto Rico and that of the auditor, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928.

I recommend that the report of the Governor of Porto Rico, without appendices, be printed as a Congressional document.

CALVIN COOLIDGE.

THE WHITE HOUSE,
January 3, 1929.

TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNOR OF PORTO RICO

Hon. HORACE M. TOWNER

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
San Juan, P. R., November 15, 1928.

To the SECRETARY OF WAR,
Washington, D. C.

SIR: Pursuant to law, I have the honor to submit the following report of the Governor of Porto Rico covering the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1927, and ending June 30, 1928.

EXTERNAL TRADE

The growth of trade between Porto Rico and the United States and with foreign countries is shown in the following table:

	1900	1914	1924	1928
Brought from United States.....	\$6,952,114	\$32,568,368	\$80,590,021	\$79,743,088
Shipped to United States.....	3,350,577	34,423,180	80,754,975	96,662,619
Brought from foreign countries.....	3,037,391	3,838,419	8,779,603	12,599,241
Shipped to foreign countries.....	3,261,922	8,679,582	7,525,565	6,872,120
Total.....	16,602,004	79,509,549	177,650,164	195,877,068

The table shows the steady growth of the commerce of Porto Rico. The total external trade in 1900, two years after the American occupation, was only in round numbers, \$16,000,000. In 1928 it was \$195,877,068. An average annual increase for the 28 years of \$6,400,000.

The increase in shipments from Porto Rico to the United States was from \$3,000,000 to \$96,000,000. The increase of purchases by Porto Rico from the United States was from \$6,000,000 to \$79,000,000. The purchases by Porto Rico from foreign countries increased four times. The purchases of Porto Rico from the United States increased 13 times. The sales of Porto Rican products to foreign countries increased two times. The sales of Porto Rican products to the United States increased 32 times. Ninety per cent of all the trade of Porto Rico is with the United States.

The value of the merchandise exported from Porto Rico to the United States and foreign countries for each of the last five years is shown by the following table:

1924.....	\$88,280,540
1925.....	94,818,944
1926.....	98,724,581
1927.....	108,067,434
1928.....	103,534,739

The decline in value of the exports from 1927 to 1928 was in part due to the very low price of sugar. Although the amount of sugar exported during 1928 was 605,620 tons, as compared with 574,869

tons exported during the preceding year, the average price per ton declined from \$95.25 to \$90.12. Another contributing factor was the falling of coffee exports from 19,000,000 pounds in 1927 to 7,000,000 pounds in 1928.

The balance of trade has been in favor of Porto Rico in all the 28 years since 1900 except in four instances. The balance of trade for the last four years is shown in the following table:

1925	\$4, 314, 343
1926	3, 466, 587
1927	9, 256, 684
1928	11, 192, 410

The amount of customs duties on articles imported into Porto Rico for the last three years is shown in the following table:

1926	\$2, 208, 093
1927	2, 167, 636
1928	2, 392, 250

The four principal products produced in Porto Rico are sugar, tobacco, coffee, and fruits. The sugar crop of 1928 was the largest ever produced. It amounted to 748,677 tons. The price, however, was very low. Its total value, \$54,579,020, was only slightly below the amount received the preceding year when the production was only 629,133 tons. The amount of sugar exported each year, with its money value is shown in Table No. 10, hereinafter inserted.

The amount and value of tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes exported is shown in Tables 11, 12, and 13; of coffee in Tables 14 and 15; and of fruits in Table 16.

The following tables show the values and quantities of imports and exports during the fiscal year 1927-28 and of previous years:

TABLE NO. 1.—*Merchandise shipped from Porto Rico to the United States and foreign countries*

Year	To the United States	To foreign countries	Total	Year	To the United States	To foreign countries	Total
1901	\$5, 581, 288	\$3, 002, 679	\$8, 583, 967	1919	\$71, 015, 351	\$8, 480, 689	\$79, 496, 040
1910	32, 095, 645	5, 864, 574	37, 960, 219	1920	153, 207, 508	17, 603, 941	150, 811, 449
1911	34, 765, 409	5, 152, 958	39, 918, 367	1921	103, 388, 227	8, 890, 348	112, 278, 575
1912	42, 873, 401	6, 832, 012	49, 705, 413	1922	66, 229, 771	5, 942, 800	72, 172, 571
1913	40, 538, 623	8, 564, 942	49, 103, 565	1923	77, 007, 257	5, 285, 793	82, 293, 050
1914	34, 423, 180	8, 679, 582	43, 102, 762	1924	80, 754, 975	7, 525, 565	88, 280, 540
1915	42, 311, 920	7, 044, 987	49, 356, 907	1925	84, 411, 792	10, 407, 152	94, 818, 944
1916	60, 952, 768	5, 778, 805	66, 731, 573	1926	88, 106, 570	10, 618, 281	98, 724, 851
1917	73, 115, 224	7, 855, 693	80, 970, 917	1927	100, 574, 001	7, 493, 433	108, 067, 434
1918	65, 514, 989	8, 779, 033	74, 294, 022	1928	96, 662, 619	6, 872, 120	103, 534, 739

TABLE NO. 2.—*Merchandise shipped into Porto Rico from the United States and foreign countries*

Year	From the United States	From foreign countries	Total	Year	From the United States	From foreign countries	Total
1901	\$6, 965, 408	\$1, 952, 728	\$8, 918, 136	1919	\$57, 898, 085	\$4, 502, 275	\$62, 400, 360
1910	27, 097, 654	3, 537, 201	30, 634, 855	1920	90, 724, 259	5, 664, 275	96, 388, 534
1911	34, 671, 958	4, 115, 039	38, 786, 997	1921	97, 074, 399	8, 405, 304	105, 479, 703
1912	38, 470, 963	4, 501, 928	42, 972, 891	1922	57, 400, 028	6, 775, 121	64, 175, 149
1913	33, 155, 005	3, 745, 057	36, 900, 062	1923	64, 743, 462	7, 201, 043	71, 944, 505
1914	32, 568, 368	3, 838, 419	36, 406, 787	1924	80, 590, 021	8, 779, 603	89, 369, 624
1915	30, 929, 831	2, 954, 465	33, 884, 296	1925	79, 349, 618	11, 154, 983	90, 504, 601
1916	35, 892, 515	3, 058, 641	38, 951, 156	1926	83, 046, 553	12, 211, 711	95, 258, 264
1917	49, 539, 249	4, 005, 975	53, 545, 224	1927	87, 046, 319	11, 764, 431	98, 810, 750
1918	58, 945, 758	4, 443, 524	63, 389, 282	1928	79, 743, 088	12, 599, 241	92, 342, 329

TABLE NO. 3.—*Merchandise shipped into and from Porto Rico in trade with the United States*

Year	Imports	Exports	Total trade with United States	Year	Imports	Exports	Total trade with United States
1901-----	\$6,965,408	\$5,581,288	\$12,546,696	1919-----	\$57,989,085	\$71,015,351	\$128,913,436
1910-----	27,097,654	32,095,645	59,193,299	1920-----	90,724,259	133,207,508	223,931,767
1911-----	34,671,958	34,765,409	69,437,367	1921-----	97,074,399	103,388,227	200,462,626
1912-----	38,470,963	42,873,401	81,344,364	1922-----	57,400,028	66,229,771	123,629,799
1913-----	33,155,005	40,538,623	73,693,628	1923-----	64,743,462	77,007,257	141,750,719
1914-----	32,568,368	34,423,180	66,991,548	1924-----	80,590,021	80,754,975	161,344,996
1915-----	30,929,831	42,311,920	73,241,751	1925-----	79,349,618	84,411,792	163,761,410
1916-----	35,892,515	60,952,768	96,845,283	1926-----	83,046,553	88,106,570	171,153,123
1917-----	49,539,249	73,115,224	122,654,473	1927-----	87,046,319	100,574,001	187,620,320
1918-----	58,945,758	65,514,989	124,460,747	1928-----	79,743,088	96,662,619	176,405,707

TABLE NO. 4.—*Merchandise shipped into and from Porto Rico in trade with foreign countries*

Year	Imports	Exports	Total foreign trade	Year	Imports	Exports	Total foreign trade
1901-----	\$1,952,728	\$3,002,679	\$4,955,407	1919-----	\$4,502,275	\$8,480,689	\$12,982,964
1910-----	3,537,201	5,864,574	9,401,755	1920-----	5,664,275	17,603,941	23,268,216
1911-----	4,115,039	5,152,958	9,267,997	1921-----	8,405,304	8,890,348	17,295,652
1912-----	4,501,928	6,832,012	11,333,940	1922-----	6,775,121	5,942,800	12,717,921
1913-----	3,745,057	8,564,942	12,309,999	1923-----	7,201,043	5,285,793	12,486,836
1914-----	3,838,419	8,679,582	12,518,001	1924-----	8,779,603	7,525,565	16,305,168
1915-----	2,954,465	7,044,987	9,999,452	1925-----	11,154,983	10,407,152	21,562,135
1916-----	3,058,641	5,778,805	8,837,446	1926-----	12,211,711	10,618,281	22,829,992
1917-----	4,005,975	7,855,693	11,861,668	1927-----	11,764,431	7,493,433	19,257,864
1918-----	4,443,524	8,779,033	13,222,557	1928-----	12,599,241	6,872,120	19,471,361

TABLE NO. 5.—*Statement showing annual trade balance resulting from the commerce between Porto Rico and other countries*

Years	Imports	Exports	Balance—		Total imports and exports
			In favor of the island	Against the island	
1901-----	\$8,918,136	\$8,583,967		\$334,169	\$17,502,103
1910-----	30,634,855	37,960,219	\$7,325,364		68,595,074
1911-----	38,786,997	39,918,367	1,131,370		78,705,364
1912-----	42,972,891	49,705,413	6,732,522		92,678,304
1913-----	36,900,062	49,103,565	12,203,503		86,003,627
1914-----	36,406,787	43,102,762	6,695,975		79,509,549
1915-----	33,884,296	49,356,907	15,472,611		83,241,203
1916-----	38,951,156	66,731,573	27,780,417		105,682,729
1917-----	53,545,224	80,970,917	27,425,693		134,516,141
1918-----	63,389,282	74,294,022	10,904,740		137,683,304
1919-----	62,400,360	79,496,040	17,095,680		141,896,400
1920-----	96,388,534	150,811,449	54,422,915		247,199,983
1921-----	105,479,703	112,278,575	6,798,872		217,758,278
1922-----	64,175,149	72,172,571	7,997,422		136,347,720
1923-----	71,944,505	82,293,050	10,348,545		154,237,555
1924-----	89,369,624	88,280,540		1,089,084	177,650,164
1925-----	90,504,601	94,818,944	4,314,343		185,323,545
1926-----	95,258,524	98,724,851	3,466,587		193,983,115
1927-----	98,810,760	108,067,434	9,256,684		206,878,184
1928-----	92,342,329	103,534,739	11,192,410		195,877,068

TABLE NO. 6.—*Merchandise brought into Porto Rico from the United States during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928*

Commodities	Unit	Quantity	Value
GROUP 0.—ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS, EXCEPT WOOL AND HAIR			
Animals:			
Cattle.....	Number.....	1, 258	\$123, 820
Horses.....	do.....	24	62, 800
Other animals.....	.....	.....	11, 325
Meats:			
Hams and shoulders, cured.....	Pound.....	7, 604, 815	1, 189, 406
Beef and veal, fresh.....	do.....	1, 116, 079	174, 561
Pork, fresh and pickled.....	do.....	12, 621, 355	1, 400, 467
Sausages, canned or uncanned.....	do.....	2, 265, 615	508, 678
Beef and meats, canned.....	do.....	708, 138	81, 913
Other meats.....	do.....	6, 134, 964	650, 441
Eggs.....	Dozen.....	173, 025	61, 845
Other animal products, edible.....	.....	.....	9, 585
Dairy products:			
Milk, condensed or prepared.....	Pound.....	4, 705, 843	582, 309
Butter.....	do.....	530, 598	252, 697
Cheese.....	do.....	1, 687, 267	322, 561
Fish:			
Smoked, salted, or dry-cured.....	do.....	13, 081, 763	969, 216
Salmon, canned.....	do.....	162, 509	19, 642
All other fish and fish products.....	do.....	3, 035, 367	224, 504
Lard and lard compounds.....	do.....	16, 540, 844	2, 335, 332
Animal oils and fats, edible.....	do.....	1, 168, 751	180, 503
Leather and manufactures:			
Upper leather.....	Square foot.....	587, 208	109, 488
Other leather.....	Pound.....	5, 977	6, 405
Boots and shoes.....	Pair.....	1, 764, 590	3, 111, 116
Other leather manufactures.....	.....	.....	253, 586
Fur and other animal products.....	Pound.....	106, 656	60, 302
GROUP 1.—VEGETABLE FOOD PRODUCTS, OIL SEED, EXPRESSED OILS, AND BEVERAGES			
Grains and preparations of:			
Corn meal and flour.....	do.....	75, 398	351, 281
Oats.....	Bushel.....	221, 193	150, 502
Rice.....	Pound.....	183, 768, 547	7, 311, 029
Wheat flour.....	Barrel.....	377, 727	2, 547, 632
Bread, biscuits, and crackers.....	Pound.....	3, 425, 857	559, 304
Other grains and preparations of.....	do.....	1, 524, 320	197, 079
Corn.....	Bushel.....	35, 746	46, 054
Fodders and feeds.....	.....	.....	805, 410
Vegetables:			
Beans, dried.....	Bushel.....	399, 311	1, 349, 988
Peas, dried.....	do.....	126, 646	389, 902
Potatoes.....	do.....	542, 712	624, 505
Onions.....	do.....	113, 311	145, 123
Canned vegetables.....	Pound.....	2, 371, 865	192, 277
Other vegetables.....	.....	.....	269, 985
Fruits:			
Apples.....	.....	.....	44, 119
Other fresh and dried fruits.....	Pound.....	638, 910	47, 128
Canned and preserved fruits.....	do.....	1, 728, 241	327, 832
Nuts.....	do.....	83, 455	34, 567
Oils, expressed:			
Cottonseed oil.....	do.....	59, 167	8, 086
Other vegetable oils and fats.....	do.....	1, 741, 688	218, 624
All vegetable foods and products:			
Cocoa and chocolate.....	do.....	561, 696	167, 190
Sugar, refined.....	do.....	707, 697	44, 914
Confectionery.....	do.....	2, 925, 702	473, 107
Beverages and fruit juices.....	.....	.....	395, 974
Other vegetable products.....	Pound.....	9, 598	115, 293
Coffee.....	do.....	854, 236	205, 589
GROUP 2.—OTHER VEGETABLE PRODUCTS, EXCEPT FIBER AND WOOD			
Rubber manufactures:			
Canvas shoes with rubber soles.....	Pair.....	405, 545	346, 459
Auto tires and tubes.....	Number.....	61, 728	678, 234
Other rubber manufactures.....	Pound.....	221, 166	396, 133
Naval stores: Tar, turpentine, etc.....	.....	.....	9, 763
Vegetable oils and fats, inedible.....	Pound.....	1, 016, 273	119, 015
Seeds: Field and vegetable.....	do.....	42, 167	6, 964
Tobacco and manufactures of:			
Tobacco leaf.....	do.....	2, 827, 074	874, 976
Cigarettes.....	Thousand.....	332, 496	1, 497, 023
Other manufactures.....	Pound.....	512, 691	109, 821
Other vegetable products, n. e. s.....	.....	.....	168, 810

TABLE NO. 6.—*Merchandise brought into Porto Rico from the United States during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928—Continued*

Commodities	Unit	Quantity	Value
GROUP 3.—TEXTILES			
Cotton:			
Sewing, crochet, and embroidery	Pound	285, 222	\$466, 160
Cotton cloth—			
Unbleached	Square yard	10, 323, 827	1, 574, 520
Bleached	do	5, 878, 688	825, 535
Printed	do	21, 817, 914	3, 353, 516
Other cotton fabrics			111, 231
Other cotton clothing—			
Hosiery	Dozen pair	346, 177	546, 867
Cotton knit goods			213, 696
All other			2, 083, 668
Laces and embroideries	Yard	1, 467, 148	104, 846
Other cotton manufactures			2, 271, 375
Fiber:			
Bags of jute	Pound	12, 068, 075	695, 577
Cordage and twine	do	1, 289, 762	176, 900
Other manufactures of vegetable fiber			677, 891
Wool and manufactures of			601, 204
Silk and manufactures of			456, 187
Other textiles and manufactures of			668, 262
GROUP 4.—WOOD AND PAPER			
Wood and manufactures of:			
Logs and timber	M feet	1, 875	92, 630
Boards, planks, and deals			1, 584, 378
Box shooks	Board foot	8, 825, 558	535, 745
Furniture			758, 857
Other wood and manufactures	Pound	429, 378	608, 778
Cork	do	99, 774	27, 190
Paper:			
Newsprint paper	do	814, 909	35, 460
Wrapping paper	do	8, 872, 514	528, 042
Other paper and manufactures of	do	4, 175, 197	741, 933
Books, pictures, and other printed matter	do	696, 096	61, 205
GROUP 5.—NONMETALLIC MINERALS			
Coal	Ton	40, 705	216, 212
Mineral oils:			
Gasoline, naphtha, etc.	Barrel	262, 841	1, 118, 924
Illuminating oil	do	68, 131	448, 367
Gas and fuel oil	do	683, 068	709, 049
Lubricating oils	do	35, 711	502, 965
Other petroleum products			125, 292
Cement, hydraulic	Barrel	50, 279	126, 610
Glass:			
Window and plate glass			50, 414
Other glassware			325, 778
China and porcelain ware	Pound	323, 036	62, 120
Earthenware, stoneware, and crockery ware			190, 473
Bricks and tiles			87, 612
Other nonmetallic minerals and products	Pound	175, 025	353, 048
GROUP 6.—METALS AND MANUFACTURES OF, EXCEPT MACHINERY AND VEHICLES			
Iron and steel:			
Iron and steel bars	Pound	7, 798, 523	172, 011
Galvanized sheets	do	15, 250, 828	665, 876
Structural sheets	Ton	1, 033, 175	30, 253
Rails for railway and railway track material	do	6, 525	313, 705
Cast-iron pipes and fittings	Pound	14, 575, 859	397, 129
Wire	do	3, 918, 481	216, 945
Nails	do	3, 641, 056	136, 920
Cutlery			124, 331
Tin and galvanized hollow ware and other ware	Pound	4, 023, 850	252, 302
Metal furniture			340, 326
Tools and other castings and forgings	Pound	289, 032	23, 969
Builders' hardware and other hardware	do	1, 645, 847	288, 729
Other iron and steel furniture	do	3, 673, 558	381, 610
Other iron and steel manufactures			1, 694, 227
Aluminum manufactures			55, 603
Copper and copper manufactures			278, 902
Brass and bronze manufactures			162, 463
Other metals and manufactures of	Pound	85, 967	228, 668

TABLE No. 6.—*Merchandise brought into Porto Rico from the United States during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928—Continued*

Commodities	Unit	Quantity	Value
GROUP 7.—MACHINERY AND VEHICLES			
Steam engines and parts of.....			\$284, 733
Internal-combustion engines.....			68, 544
Electrical machinery and appliances.....			737, 963
Sugar machinery.....			770, 836
Pumps and pumping machinery.....	Number.....	1, 302	129, 487
Other machinery and parts, except agricultural.....			1, 120, 282
Agricultural machinery and implements.....			446, 359
Vehicles:			
Motor trucks and busses.....	Number.....	597	711, 107
Passenger automobiles.....	do.....	1, 876	1, 881, 573
Auto parts and accessories.....			521, 835
Bicycles.....	Number.....	516	14, 021
Cars for railways.....			278, 925
Other vehicles and parts of.....			330, 381
GROUP 8.—CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS			
Chemicals:			
Medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations, including tar.....			858, 656
Acids.....	Pound.....	1, 019, 530	52, 488
Other chemicals.....	do.....	1, 161, 010	655, 355
Paints, pigments and varnishes.....			488, 521
Fertilizers:			
Nitrate of soda.....	Ton.....	2, 527	129, 102
Sulphate of ammonia.....	do.....	33, 858	1, 502, 632
Other fertilizers.....	do.....	21, 271	731, 042
Explosives.....			27, 540
Soap, perfumery and cosmetics:			
Toilet soap or fancy.....	Pound.....	616, 204	161, 986
Other soap.....	do.....	15, 536, 767	917, 054
Perfumery, cosmetics and other toilet preparations.....			394, 837
GROUP 9.—MISCELLANEOUS			
Motion-picture films.....	Foot.....	2, 621, 089	95, 573
Scientific instruments and apparatus.....			139, 510
Musical instruments:			
Pianos.....	Number.....	283	87, 976
Phonographs and records.....			252, 059
Other musical instruments and parts of.....			32, 225
Pencils, pens and penholders.....			41, 346
Toys.....			223, 621
Candles.....	Pound.....	2, 133, 629	185, 207
All other articles.....			1, 654, 732
Total.....			79, 743, 088

The value of the importations from the United States during the year under review declined by \$7,303,231, as compared with the figures for last year, the aggregate value being \$79,743,088. The principal items accounting for this decrease in the value of the importations are the following: Meats, which decreased by \$463,937; fish and fish products, by \$287,454; grains and preparations of, by \$1,938,937, the two products under this item contributing to this decrease being rice, which shows a decrease in value of \$838,414 and an increase in quantity of 9,289,493 pounds, and wheat flour which shows a decrease in both quantity and value of 86,657 barrels and \$752,360, respectively; leather and manufactures of, which decreased by \$308,029; cotton manufactures, by \$1,780,197; wood and manufactures of, by \$729,531; paper and manufactures of, by \$659,714; and fertilizers, which decreased by \$535,925.

There were a few small increases in the value of certain articles imported, among which mention may be made of the following: Fiber manufactures, which increased by \$188,055; mineral oils, by \$64,164; machinery and parts, by \$403,982, and vehicles and parts, by \$126,422.

TABLE NO. 7.—*Merchandise brought into Porto Rico from foreign countries during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928*

Commodities	Unit	Quantity	Value
GROUP 0.—ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS, EXCEPT WOOL AND HAIR			
Animals:			
Horses.....	Number.....	15	\$3,930
Other animals.....			5,920
Meats:			
Canned meats.....	Pound.....	800,588	113,499
Prepared meats, etc.....	do.....	1,889,544	231,715
Dairy products:			
Condensed or evaporated milk.....	do.....	52,479	5,831
Butter.....	do.....	155,598	114,964
Cheese.....	do.....	2,074,982	324,762
Fish:			
Dried fish.....	do.....	20,238,104	1,409,153
Fish in oil.....	do.....	182,469	29,912
Other fish and fish products.....			52,713
Other edible animal products.....			52,914
Hides and skins, except furs.....			
Leather manufactures.....			27,797
Other inedible animal products.....			29,587
GROUP 1.—VEGETABLE FOOD PRODUCTS, OILSEEDS, EXPRESSED OILS, FATS AND BEVERAGES			
Grains and preparations of:			
Corn.....	Bushel.....	143,930	172,720
Rice, cleaned.....	Pound.....	3,371,400	133,432
Biscuits.....	do.....	42,908	18,555
Macaroni.....	do.....	31,266	4,230
Other grains and preparations of.....			5,284
Vegetables:			
Beans, dried.....	Pound.....	5,622,623	219,498
Peas, dried.....	do.....	697,368	32,638
Potatoes.....	do.....	489,521	13,268
Garlics.....	do.....	1,980,082	122,966
Onions.....	do.....	1,110,617	25,581
Other fresh vegetables.....			30,569
Canned or prepared vegetables.....			30,593
Fruits and nuts:			
Olives.....	Gallon.....	60,103	24,211
Dried fruits.....			101
Preserved or prepared fruits.....			40,117
Nuts.....			12,378
Vegetable oils and fats:			
Olive oil.....	Pound.....	1,695,062	312,899
Cocoa, tea, and spices:			
Cocoa or cacao beans.....	do.....	123,740	18,402
Cocoa or chocolate.....	do.....	77,928	14,663
Spices.....	do.....	272,587	41,792
Molasses and confectionery:			
Molasses and syrups.....	Gallon.....	806,472	23,772
Confectionery.....	Pound.....	86,046	41,503
Coffee.....	do.....	351,587	100,076
Beverages.....			40,805
GROUP 2.—OTHER VEGETABLE PRODUCTS, EXCEPT FIBER AND WOOD			
Rubber manufactures and substitutes.....			20,680
Crude vegetable drugs and essential oils, etc.....			7,587
Miscellaneous vegetable products:			
Leaf tobacco.....	Pound.....	1,539,046	1,058,660
Sugar cane.....			810,248
GROUP 3.—TEXTILES			
Cotton:			
Sewing thread, crochet cotton.....			58,614
All other cotton manufactures.....			18,612
Jute:			
Plain woven fabrics of jute.....			125,084
Jute bags.....	Pound.....	11,554,735	923,920
Flax and hemp manufactures.....			238,839
Other manufactures of vegetable fiber.....			82,572
Wool and hair and manufactures of.....			5,216
Silk and manufactures of.....			5,395
GROUP 4.—WOOD AND PAPER			
Wood:			
Softwood boards.....	M feet.....	253	9,735
Cabinet woods.....			29,864
Railroad ties.....	Number.....	116,641	39,195
All other woods.....			13,766
Wood furniture and other wood manufactures.....			9,145
Paper, except printed matter:			
Newsprint paper.....	Pound.....	2,092,990	62,698
Other paper and paper products.....			37,330

TABLE No. 7.—*Merchandise brought into Porto Rico from the United States during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928—Continued*

Commodities	Unit	Quantity	Value
GROUP 5.—NONMETALLIC MINERALS			
Coal and petroleum products:			
Charcoal			\$16, 385
Crude and fuel oil	Barrel	378, 194	566, 123
Gasoline	do	254, 972	1, 313, 419
Illuminating oil	do	10, 395	79, 001
Cement, hydraulic	Ton	292, 922	405, 825
Glassware			20, 106
Clay and clay products			28, 912
Salt	Pound	6, 078, 911	7, 793
Other nonmetallic mineral products			3, 416
GROUP 6.—ORES, METALS AND MANUFACTURES OF, EXCEPT MACHINERY AND VEHICLES			
Iron and steel:			
Steel bars	Pound	2, 731, 789	29, 526
Castings and forgings	do	145, 672	6, 261
Barbed wire and other wire manufactures	do	192, 715	5, 835
Nails	do	920, 035	8, 802
Other manufactures of iron and steel			43, 098
Other metals and manufactures of			13, 272
GROUP 7.—MACHINERY			
Electric:			
Electric lamps	Number	1, 122	415
Electric machinery and apparatus			4, 555
Other machinery, except agricultural			50, 722
Agricultural machinery			289, 056
GROUP 8.—CHEMICALS			
Medical and pharmaceutical preparations			84, 535
Other chemicals			21, 615
Pigments and paints:			
Zinc oxide	Pound	189, 392	22, 314
Other pigments and paints			5, 954
Fertilizers:			
Crude chloride of potash	Ton	3, 010	108, 995
Sulphate of potash	do	3, 101	172, 318
All other fertilizers	do	37, 163	627, 430
Miscellaneous chemical products:			
Toilet soap	Pound	24, 281	11, 730
Perfumery			31, 914
Cosmetics and toilet preparations			28, 894
GROUP 9.—MISCELLANEOUS			
Films	Linear foot	62, 317	2, 111
Art works			15, 949
Personal effects			7, 955
Articles imported under bond for exportation within 6 months			
Articles of American make returned			33, 229
Articles from the Virgin Islands free			246, 439
All other articles			79, 619
United States containers returned	Number	176, 332	87, 880
			678, 238
Total value of imports from foreign countries			12, 599, 241

While the value of the importations from the United States this year shows a considerable decrease under that for the previous year, the importations from foreign countries, which aggregated \$12,599,241, show a slight increase of \$834,810 over those for last year. The importations of leaf tobacco show an increase over last year's figures of \$632,710 and in quantity of 727,619 pounds. Sugar-cane increased by \$148,780. The increase in jute manufactures was \$73,296, and in flax and hemp manufactures, \$63,858. The importations of gasoline increased by \$252,661 and in quantity by 17,893 barrels. There was also an increase in agricultural machinery of \$127,808, and in fertilizers of \$187,859. On the other hand, the importations of dairy products decreased by \$84,978; rice decreased by \$289,921 and

in quantity by 5,640,262 pounds; fish and fish products, by \$66,805; molasses and confectionery, by \$301,373; wood and manufactures of, by \$40,769; cement, by \$135,963 and in quantity by 245,462 tons, and in iron and steel manufactures the decrease was \$68,655.

The importations of coffee from foreign countries this year amounted to 351,587 pounds, with a value of \$100,076.

TABLE NO. 8.—*Merchandise shipped from Porto Rico to the United States during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928*

Commodity	Unit	Quantity	Value
Beeswax.....	Pound.....	23,962	\$7,169
Buttons.....	Gross.....	308,067	131,770
Crude cacao.....	Pound.....	30,058	7,315
Raw coffee.....	do.....	4,246,325	1,406,313
Cotton and manufactures of:			
Unmanufactured cotton.....	do.....	526,824	245,386
Handkerchiefs.....	Dozen.....	827,822	1,341,097
Wearing apparel for women and children.....	Pound.....	3,366,564	6,171,984
Wearing apparel for men and boys.....	do.....	44,477	78,578
Other cotton manufactures.....	do.....	1,209,808	1,316,142
Fruits:			
Grapefruit.....	Box.....	891,940	2,704,310
Oranges.....	do.....	546,463	1,286,039
Pineapples.....	Crate.....	549,280	1,654,108
Other fruits.....	Pound.....	318,134	13,452
Preserved fruits:			
Canned grapefruit.....	do.....	10,733,709	1,002,621
Canned pineapples.....	do.....	2,121,576	141,268
Other preserved fruits.....	do.....	84,219	9,010
Fruit juices.....	Gallon.....	12,226	8,749
Coconuts.....	Thousand.....	23,088	697,972
Copra.....	Pound.....	63,510	2,873
Hides and skins:			
Cattle.....	do.....	775,078	141,445
Other.....	do.....	62,884	29,863
Honey.....	do.....	1,426,251	85,645
Manganese ore.....	Tons.....	1,207	43,890
Medical and pharmaceutical preparations.....	Pound.....	12,121	3,584
Perfumery and cosmetics.....	do.....	158,483	14,249
Bay oil.....	do.....	16,270	25,507
Bay rum.....	Gallon.....	66,394	73,069
Seeds:			
Annato.....	Pound.....	82,533	4,672
Other.....	do.....	39,189	7,939
Roots and plants:			
Ginger root.....	do.....	62,570	3,110
Other.....	do.....	61,673	15,176
Denatured alcohol.....	Gallon.....	742,518	332,608
Straw and manufactures of:			
Hats.....	Dozen.....	33,138	118,365
Baskets.....	do.....	74	738
Other manufactures.....	Pound.....	738	279
Other straw.....	do.....	17,335	6,170
Sugar and molasses:			
Sugar, raw and refined.....	do.....	1,211,076,000	54,569,764
Molasses.....	Gallon.....	19,390,302	830,891
Tobacco and manufactures of:			
Unstemmed leaf tobacco.....	Pound.....	6,591,633	2,935,206
Stemmed leaf tobacco.....	do.....	20,062,937	12,531,575
Scraps, stems, etc.....	do.....	3,152,812	1,594,740
Cigars and cheroots.....	Thousand.....	144,378	3,625,561
Cigarettes.....	do.....	5,377	44,596
Vegetables.....	Pound.....	791,621	47,179
Wood and manufactures of.....	Square foot.....	9,264	6,884
Miscellaneous products:			
Candy.....	Pound.....	17,279	3,308
Fresh fish.....	do.....	17,317	3,390
Crude cottonseed oil.....	do.....	91,820	8,599
Salt.....	do.....	5,889,000	7,009
All other articles.....			52,948
Total value of products of Porto Rico.....			95,394,550
Value of American goods returned.....			1,218,460
Value of goods shipped to the United States for foreign destination.....			49,609
Total value of shipments to the United States.....			96,662,619

Our exports to the United States this year amounted to \$96,662,619, which represents a decrease of \$2,560,299, as compared with the figures for last year. Coffee shipped via New York to foreign countries—\$1,393,037 worth—is credited to the shipments to the United States in the foregoing table. The following items show decreases in the value of the exports, as compared with last year's figures: Coffee, which decreased by \$38,673 and in quantity by 125,501 pounds; cotton and manufactures of, by \$101,116; straw and manufactures, by \$99,791; sugar, raw and refined, by \$173,268, although the quantity shipped increased by 61,576,873 pounds; tobacco and manufactures, our second largest item of export, decreased by \$4,128,394; and vegetables, by \$100,937. Some improvement was made in other items of export, as follows: Fruits, which increased by \$1,017,982; hides and skins, by \$90,076, and denatured alcohol, which increased in money value by \$174,302 and in quantity by 303,907 gallons.

TABLE No. 9.—*Merchandise shipped from Porto Rico to foreign countries during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928*

Commodities	Unit	Quantity	Value
GROUP 0.—ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS, EXCEPT WOOL AND HAIR			
Animals:			
Horses.....	Number.....	18	\$8,190
Other animals.....	.....do.....	110	7,058
Meats:			
Pork and beef, fresh.....	Pound.....	1,101	134
Hams and shoulders, cured.....	.....do.....	75,929	16,786
Pickled pork.....	.....do.....	66,742	8,440
Sausages, canned or uncanned.....	.....do.....	85,627	22,428
Other meats and meat products.....	.....do.....		42,517
Dairy products:			
Milk, condensed or prepared.....	Pound.....	100,355	13,683
Butter.....	.....do.....	33,995	15,127
Cheese.....	.....do.....	55,822	15,887
Fish:			
Salmon, canned.....	.....do.....	45,764	5,892
Salted or dry-cured fish.....	.....do.....	383,799	29,866
Other fish and fish products.....	.....do.....		7,365
Animal and fish oils, fats and greases:			
Tallow, inedible.....	Pound.....	140,317	11,353
Lard.....	.....do.....	1,863,925	248,463
Oleomargarine and other animal fats.....	.....do.....	79,057	12,693
Other edible animal products.....	.....do.....		2,523
Hides and skins:			
Leather, cattle, lamb, etc.....	Square foot.....	327,943	73,713
Other leather.....	.....do.....		3,848
Boots and shoes.....	Pair.....	68,614	128,355
Other leather manufactures.....	.....do.....		10,891
Other miscellaneous animal products, inedible.....			12,145
GROUP 1.—VEGETABLE FOOD PRODUCTS, OILSEEDS, EXPRESSED OILS AND BEVERAGES			
Grains and preparations of:			
Corn.....	Bushel.....	5,837	7,864
Corn meal and flour.....	Barrel.....	9,486	44,645
Oatmeal.....	Pound.....	1,102,488	53,186
Rye flour.....	Barrel.....	31,546	213,161
Wheat flour.....	.....do.....	76,464	9,893
Macaroni.....	.....do.....		10,507
Fodders and feeds.....			25,720
Vegetables:			
Beans and peas, dried.....	Bushel.....	3,893	15,859
Potatoes.....	.....do.....	8,934	11,552
Other fresh vegetables.....	Pound.....	21,365	4,642
Other vegetable preparations.....	.....do.....		20,651
Fruits and nuts:			
Fresh fruits—			
Subtropical fruits.....	Crate.....	1,922	6,025
Other.....	.....do.....		1,693
Canned and prepared fruits.....			6,276
Nuts—			
Peanuts.....	Pound.....	28,923	2,342
Other nuts (coconuts).....	.....do.....	918,082	16,020

TABLE NO. 9.—*Merchandise shipped from Porto Rico to foreign countries during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928—Continued*

Commodities	Unit	Quantity	Value
GROUP 1.—VEGETABLE FOOD PRODUCTS, OILSEEDS, EXPRESSED OILS AND BEVERAGES—Continued			
Oilseeds and vegetable oils and fats.....			\$8, 386
Cocoa, coffee, and spices:			
Cocoa and chocolate.....	Pound.....	93, 098	20, 995
Coffee, raw.....	do.....	3, 585, 212	1, 188, 145
Other coffee (roasted, etc.).....	do.....	6, 263	2, 414
Spices.....	do.....	1, 635	521
Sugar, molasses, and confectionery:			
Sugar, refined.....	do.....	165, 415	9, 256
Confectionery.....	do.....	56, 396	13, 754
Molasses and sirups.....	Gallon.....	824, 608	30, 910
Beverages.....			8, 181
GROUP 2.—OTHER VEGETABLE PRODUCTS, EXCEPT FIBER AND WOOD			
Rubber manufactures.....			138, 830
Naval stores and resins.....			7, 780
Tobacco and manufactures of:			
Tobacco leaf.....	Pound.....	127, 514	13, 039
Cigarettes.....	M.....	11, 409	33, 220
Other tobacco manufactures.....			1, 094
Starch.....	Pound.....	207, 807	7, 496
Miscellaneous vegetable products.....			5, 064
GROUP 3.—TEXTILES			
Cotton:			
Cotton cloth—			
Cotton duck.....	Square yard.....	27, 155	5, 168
Unbleached cotton cloth.....	do.....	100, 562	10, 436
Bleached cotton cloth.....	do.....	245, 797	35, 238
Printed cotton cloth.....	do.....	646, 706	112, 355
Dyed-piece cotton cloth.....	do.....	306, 850	59, 822
Yarn or stock dyed cotton cloth.....	do.....	125, 199	21, 286
Other cotton fabrics.....			54, 930
Cotton wearing apparel—			
Hosiery.....	Dozen.....	18, 819	40, 052
Shirts.....	Number.....	8, 235	66, 856
All other cotton manufactures.....			271, 081
Manufactures of vegetable fiber.....			40, 970
Wool and manufactures of.....			8, 011
Silk and manufactures of.....			24, 051
Miscellaneous textile products.....			29, 996
GROUP 4.—WOOD AND PAPER			
Unmanufactured or partly manufactured wood:			
Yellow-pine dressed boards.....	M feet.....	1, 777	55, 835
Other lumber.....			14, 045
Wood manufactures.....			34, 509
Paper manufactures.....			28, 192
Books and other printed matter.....			13, 160
GROUP 5.—NONMETALLIC MINERAL PRODUCTS			
Coal and petroleum products:			
Gasoline.....	Barrel.....	113, 292	964, 998
Illuminating oil.....	do.....	1, 653	13, 259
Other petroleum products.....			44, 492
Stone manufactures.....			430
Lime and plaster.....	Barrel.....	12, 728	12, 586
Glassware.....			7, 670
Clay products.....			15, 993
Other nonmetallic mineral products.....			8, 103
GROUP 6.—ORES, METALS AND MANUFACTURES OF, EXCEPT MACHINERY AND VEHICLES			
Iron and steel:			
Iron and steel bars.....	Pound.....	255, 724	10, 820
Tubular products and fittings.....			16, 135
Other manufactures of iron and steel.....			443, 607
Other metals and manufactures of.....			118, 779
GROUP 7.—MACHINERY AND VEHICLES			
Electric machinery and apparatus.....			18, 043
All other machinery and parts, except agricultural.....			123, 986
Agricultural machinery.....			15, 340

TABLE NO. 9.—*Merchandise shipped from Porto Rico to foreign countries during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928—Continued*

Commodity	Unit	Quantity	Value
GROUP 7.—MACHINERY AND VEHICLES—Continued			
Vehicles:			
Motor trucks and busses, except electric.....	Number.....	262	\$204, 819
Passenger cars.....	do.....	1, 082	760, 012
Auto parts and accessories.....			75, 538
Other vehicles and parts of.....			12, 417
GROUP 8.—CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS			
Medical and pharmaceutical preparations.....			20, 299
Other chemicals.....			27, 600
Pure and denatured alcohol.....	Gallon.....	226, 349	72, 425
Pigments, paints, and varnishes.....			7, 280
Fertilizers and fertilizing materials.....	Ton.....	371	13, 929
Miscellaneous chemical products:			
Perfumery.....			5, 764
Toilet preparations, including toilet soap.....	Pound.....	12, 606	2, 690
Laundry soap and all other soap.....	do.....	388, 528	24, 550
GROUP 9.—MISCELLANEOUS			
Motion-picture films.....	Linear ft.....	3, 951, 209	49, 618
All other articles.....			141, 758
Total value of shipments to foreign countries.....			6, 795, 411
Total value of foreign merchandise reexported.....			76, 709
Total value of exports.....			6, 872, 120

Our exports to foreign countries, which aggregated \$6,872,120 this year, show a decline as compared with the figures for the previous year, but in this case the decrease, unlike that shown in the exports to the United States, is rather small, \$621,313; \$1,393,037 worth of coffee shipped to foreign countries via New York is credited to the shipments to the United States. The exportations of coffee this year as compared with last year show the considerable drop in money value of \$2,470,045 and in quantity of 8,623,445 pounds. Fruits also show a decrease in value of \$16,931, and grains and preparations of, of \$45,893. On the other hand, some of the most important items show increases in their export value as compared with the figures for the preceding year, as follows: Meats, increased by \$23,551; lard, increased in quantity by 700,738 pounds and in value by \$74,184; hides and skins, by \$67,622; rubber manufactures, by \$96,107; cotton manufactures, by \$206,235; coal and petroleum products, by \$194,446; iron and steel manufactures, by \$297,496, and machinery and vehicles, by \$577,422.

TABLE 10.—*Sugar exports*

Fiscal year	Short tons	Value	Average price per ton	Fiscal year	Short tons	Value	Average price per ton
1901.....	68, 909	\$4, 715, 611	\$68. 43	1919.....	351, 910	\$48, 132, 419	\$136. 77
1910.....	284, 522	23, 545, 922	82. 75	1920.....	419, 388	98, 923, 750	235. 88
1911.....	322, 919	24, 479, 346	75. 81	1921.....	409, 407	72, 440, 924	176. 94
1912.....	367, 145	31, 544, 063	85. 92	1922.....	469, 889	40, 820, 333	86. 86
1913.....	382, 700	26, 619, 158	69. 55	1923.....	355, 423	46, 207, 276	130. 01
1914.....	320, 633	20, 240, 333	63. 12	1924.....	372, 041	47, 838, 687	128. 58
1915.....	294, 475	27, 278, 754	92. 64	1925.....	571, 559	53, 261, 895	93. 20
1916.....	424, 955	45, 809, 445	107. 79	1926.....	578, 811	48, 223, 258	83. 30
1917.....	488, 943	54, 015, 903	110. 47	1927.....	574, 869	54, 756, 984	95. 25
1918.....	336, 788	41, 362, 229	122. 81	1928.....	605, 620	54, 579, 020	90. 12

The total exportations of sugar this year amounted to 605,620 short tons, valued at \$54,579,020, which represents an increase in quantity of 30,751 tons and a decrease in value of \$177,964, and consequently a decline in the average price per ton of \$5.13, as compared with the figures for the previous year. There were shipped to the United States 605,538 short tons, valued at \$54,569,764, and the remaining 82 tons, with a value of \$9,256, were shipped to foreign countries.

TABLE No. 11.—*Cigars*

Fiscal year	Withdrawn for consumption	Withdrawn for export	Total output	Fiscal year	Withdrawn for consumption	Withdrawn for export	Total output
1907-----	74,698,430	132,669,823	207,368,253	1918-----	106,646,685	181,779,519	288,426,204
1908-----	76,983,830	103,781,719	180,705,549	1919-----	94,334,802	¹ 149,124,690	243,459,492
1909-----	84,983,260	140,302,271	225,235,531	1920-----	98,023,748	223,316,450	321,340,198
1910-----	92,700,160	151,724,438	244,424,598	1921-----	105,728,125	152,323,916	258,052,041
1911-----	101,064,495	174,743,098	275,807,593	1922-----	77,513,408	140,504,000	218,017,408
1912-----	111,682,615	169,765,656	281,448,271	1923-----	75,017,877	¹ 184,625,596	259,643,473
1913-----	119,088,300	¹ 165,768,512	284,806,812	1924-----	75,928,681	175,289,000	251,217,681
1914-----	112,711,543	¹ 150,363,991	263,075,534	1925-----	70,019,209	196,560,000	266,579,209
1915-----	101,423,083	¹ 174,275,407	275,698,490	1926-----	108,576,901	214,546,000	323,122,901
1916-----	109,130,296	¹ 159,248,855	268,379,151	1927-----	68,646,933	160,804,000	229,450,933
1917-----	-----	210,399,365	-----	1928-----	63,392,413	144,378,000	207,770,413

¹ Treasury figures.

TABLE No. 12.—*Cigarettes*

Fiscal year	Withdrawn for consumption	Withdrawn for export	Total output	Fiscal year	Withdrawn for consumption	Withdrawn for export	Total output
1907-----	347,722,000	10,460,000	258,182,000	1918-----	340,077,040	6,439,600	346,516,640
1908-----	354,407,900	11,232,424	365,640,324	1919-----	426,582,000	¹ 20,111,600	446,693,600
1909-----	365,525,500	11,244,560	376,770,000	1920-----	576,424,970	5,123,850	581,548,820
1910-----	393,844,300	13,142,000	406,986,300	1921-----	411,716,960	5,738,000	417,454,960
1911-----	459,710,045	11,760,000	471,470,045	1922-----	434,652,520	2,056,000	436,708,520
1912-----	532,431,000	¹ 11,293,350	543,724,350	1923-----	417,306,900	¹ 2,996,500	420,303,400
1913-----	464,861,210	¹ 8,907,600	473,768,810	1924-----	401,134,100	7,734,000	408,868,100
1914-----	376,695,120	¹ 6,195,000	382,890,120	1925-----	410,101,820	14,006,000	424,107,820
1915-----	339,080,165	¹ 12,020,750	351,100,915	1926-----	365,260,320	10,262,000	375,522,320
1916-----	308,025,865	¹ 11,785,430	319,811,295	1927-----	341,856,850	12,597,000	354,453,850
1917-----	-----	9,571,250	-----	1928-----	373,457,600	16,786,000	390,243,600

¹ Treasury figures.

TABLE No. 13.—*Tobacco leaf and scrap exported*

Fiscal year	Pounds	Value	Fiscal year	Pounds	Value
1907-----	4,344,659	\$1,232,058	1918-----	17,196,323	\$8,982,130
1908-----	8,402,286	1,996,055	1919-----	17,859,559	8,420,583
1909-----	4,539,320	1,250,237	1920-----	20,507,565	13,416,388
1910-----	4,176,172	1,258,317	1921-----	14,667,932	13,568,249
1911-----	4,450,012	1,554,783	1922-----	22,452,588	9,002,767
1912-----	5,456,751	2,320,130	1923-----	¹ 19,911,979	¹ 9,647,063
1913-----	8,536,776	3,188,227	1924-----	¹ 23,343,048	¹ 13,142,136
1914-----	9,244,490	3,206,610	1925-----	22,957,569	9,870,076
1915-----	9,285,333	3,204,423	1926-----	24,521,085	13,944,891
1916-----	8,084,914	3,033,149	1927-----	30,781,946	20,587,484
1917-----	9,408,723	3,850,670	1928-----	29,934,896	17,074,560

¹ Treasury figures.

During the year under review \$20,777,937 worth of tobacco and tobacco manufactures was shipped from Porto Rico to the United States and foreign countries, of which \$20,731,678 corresponds to the United States and \$46,259 to foreign countries. As compared with the previous year there was a decrease of \$4,113,444 in the value of tobacco exports. In the aggregate are included transshipments made in Porto Rico of tobacco exported from continental United States to foreign countries. The cigars exported decreased as compared with last year by 16,426,400, while cigarettes increased by 4,189,000. The exports of tobacco leaf and scrap decreased by 847,050 pounds and in value by \$3,512,914.

TABLE NO. 14.—*Coffee exports*

Fiscal year	Pounds	Value	Average price	Fiscal year	Pounds	Value	Average price
1901-----	12,157,240	\$1,678,765	\$0.137	1919-----	27,897,771	\$6,065,573	\$0.217
1910-----	45,209,792	5,669,602	.125	1920-----	32,776,754	9,034,028	.276
1911-----	33,937,021	4,992,779	.147	1921-----	26,731,648	5,352,924	.200
1912-----	40,146,365	6,754,913	.168	1922-----	23,402,127	4,316,859	.141
1913-----	49,774,197	8,511,316	.171	1923-----	16,821,939	3,188,002	.189
1914-----	50,211,947	8,193,544	.163	1924-----	21,859,215	4,595,811	.210
1915-----	51,125,620	7,082,791	.138	1925-----	23,781,007	6,574,983	.280
1916-----	32,144,283	5,049,283	.157	1926-----	26,330,159	7,070,652	.260
1917-----	39,615,146	5,892,081	.149	1927-----	19,353,581	5,747,932	.296
1918-----	37,618,613	5,505,316	.146	1928-----	7,837,800	2,596,872	.330

TABLE NO. 15.—*Coffee exports, by countries, during the fiscal years ending June 30, 1926, to June 30, 1928*

Countries	1926		1927		1928	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
United States-----	623,581	\$170,062	7,141,624	\$2,088,163	4,246,325	\$1,406,313
Europe:						
Belgium-----	227,194	59,070	15,740	4,628	600	198
Denmark-----	97,546	25,362	29,760	8,707	9,920	2,925
France-----	409,495	106,135	418,857	126,818	14,499	4,430
Germany-----	5,030,549	1,308,263	2,101,753	637,505	269,421	82,415
Gibraltar-----	61,847	16,080				
Italy-----	3,688,325	958,964	54,561	15,910	24,802	7,678
Netherlands-----	1,568,587	409,258	788,153	239,170	330,347	99,729
Spain-----	3,264,186	962,953	3,987,007	1,246,130	2,307,106	784,176
Sweden-----	417,537	108,560	89,069	27,048	53,609	17,394
England-----	7,813	2,033				
Finland-----	58,108	15,108				
Austria-----	27,016	7,024				
Czechoslovakia-----	75,502	19,630				
North America:						
Cuba-----	10,467,245	2,819,144	4,562,982	1,302,724	444,430	147,138
Virgin Islands-----	23,354	5,461	16,536	4,520	21,457	6,251
Dutch West Indies-----	10,244	3,330	10,241	3,161	14,637	4,871
British West Indies-----	100	26	100	27		
Dominican Republic-----	28,316	8,475	61,347	18,446	10,147	2,823
French West Indies-----			200	51	269	76
Mexico-----					10,912	3,443
South America: Argentina-----	129,358	33,634				
Africa:						
Morocco-----	44,714	12,866	16,454	4,759	40,828	14,079
Canary Islands-----	6,843	1,982	14,576	7,444	5,371	1,810
Spanish Africa-----	62,699	17,232	44,621	12,721	33,120	11,123
Total-----	26,330,159	7,070,652	19,353,581	5,747,932	7,837,800	2,596,872

As per the preceding tables, 7,837,800 pounds of coffee, valued at \$2,596,872, were shipped from Porto Rico this year, which if compared with the exports for the previous year shows a falling off of 11,515,781 pounds and of \$3,151,060 in money value. It will also be noticed that this is the first time since American occupation of the island that the coffee exports have fallen so low, and this was due to the small yield of the crop. Of the total coffee exports 3,591,475 pounds, with a value of \$1,190,559, went to foreign countries; 52,221 pounds, with a value of \$13,276, went to the United States for consumption there, and the remaining 4,194,104 pounds, valued at \$1,393,037, although credited to the shipments to the United States, were shipped to foreign countries via New York. This year coffee sold at a better price than the year before, that is 3.4 cents over last year, or at an average price of 33 cents per pound, which in turn is the highest price for which it has sold since the American occupation.

TABLE NO. 16.—*Value of fruit exports*

Fiscal year	Oranges	Pineapples	Canned pineapples and others	Coconuts	Grapefruit	Other fruits	Total
1901.....	\$84,475	(¹)	(¹)	\$8,334	(¹)	\$16,992	\$109,801
1910.....	582,716	\$555,044	\$106,587	218,870	\$162,749	9,851	1,635,817
1911.....	703,969	641,291	149,744	258,168	309,698	11,123	2,073,993
1912.....	584,414	684,774	258,671	308,883	525,048	15,972	2,377,762
1913.....	740,091	1,142,348	147,564	353,690	726,811	10,415	3,120,919
1914.....	752,180	1,246,001	175,534	451,882	751,769	23,537	3,400,903
1915.....	378,181	1,723,863	84,735	410,378	834,440	9,560	3,441,157
1916.....	790,797	1,176,406	122,876	413,573	837,014	14,619	3,355,285
1917.....	1,009,737	916,415	139,765	438,564	939,677	18,411	3,459,569
1918.....	1,231,551	617,496	75,216	572,600	1,120,330	11,021	3,628,214
1919.....	770,203	458,675	148,662	757,649	739,106	24,185	2,898,580
1920.....	833,575	479,461	99,172	1,142,412	1,332,742	13,568	3,890,930
1921.....	447,426	574,640	99,247	690,895	2,019,557	4,389	3,836,154
1922.....	926,329	600,514	112,909	489,657	1,102,020	115,314	3,346,743
1923.....	1,750,641	726,091	691,737	583,931	1,384,201	17,689	5,154,290
1924.....	474,429	811,925	477,028	616,484	2,000,721	59,642	4,440,229
1925.....	839,906	1,046,503	528,799	720,189	1,757,235	30,397	4,923,029
1926.....	1,197,700	1,534,173	778,442	625,989	2,482,123	17,402	6,635,829
1927.....	732,689	1,791,109	1,188,321	628,196	2,095,908	15,724	6,451,947
1928.....	1,286,039	1,654,108	1,159,175	713,992	2,704,310	21,170	7,538,794

¹ Shipments included under "Other fruits."

As shown in the foregoing table, the value of fruit exports for the year under review was \$7,538,794, which is the largest amount ever reached since the American occupation. If compared with the year 1901, it shows an increase of \$7,428,993, and if with the year 1926-27 the increase was \$1,086,847, which somewhat compensates the considerable decline had in the coffee exports. Taking the items of export separately, oranges increased by \$553,350 over last year's figures; grapefruit, by \$608,402; coconuts, by \$85,796; and under the item "Other fruits" the increase was of \$6,000. The value of pineapple exports decreased by \$137,001 and canned pineapples and others by \$29,146.

TABLE NO. 17.—Statement, by countries, of value of merchandise brought into Porto Rico from the United States and foreign countries for the past five years ending June 30, 1928

Countries	Shipped into Porto Rico				
	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
United States.....	\$80,590,021	\$79,349,618	\$83,046,553	\$87,046,319	\$79,743,088
Europe:					
Greece.....					317
Austria.....	19,137	11,493	13,310	14,798	13,903
Belgium.....	425,567	109,254	80,059	260,879	247,904
Czechoslovakia.....	1,304	4,423	5,007	5,989	8,951
Denmark.....	660,921	541,619	732,287	487,667	514,023
France.....	134,099	139,824	215,534	187,759	222,733
Germany.....	290,941	474,305	593,438	663,332	410,733
Italy.....	37,420	40,188	56,749	182,020	143,470
Hungary.....	1,499	156		1,273	
Netherlands.....	440,268	537,610	685,204	638,458	567,596
Norway.....	4,320	21,741	3,609	5,844	26,831
Portugal.....	252	10	2,532		
Spain.....	631,694	767,575	1,149,020	1,134,916	782,620
Sweden.....	30,595	11,504		3,419	6,075
Switzerland.....	4,746	5,312	6,771	13,284	30,627
Turkey in Europe.....	71			547	
United Kingdom.....	565,949	750,797	780,029	747,943	795,243
Gibraltar.....		48			
Rumania.....			2,937		
Latvia.....		459			3,951
Irish Free State.....		1,269	12,682	4,192	2,538
Poland and Danzig.....		1,733	2,291	18,313	759
Finland.....		142	202		
Ukraine.....		346			
Russia in Europe.....			286		46
Yugoslavia.....				629	
Azores and Madeira.....				323	
Bulgaria.....					24
North America:					
Canada.....	847,481	881,810	853,319	931,093	885,433
Panama.....	3,154	1,465	1,840	3,824	1,617
Mexico.....	534,148	770,481	767,226	417,466	23,563
Newfoundland.....	499,051	665,221	732,499	457,099	454,984
West Indies—					
Cuba.....	78,198	437,477	505,286	614,457	1,249,499
British.....	146,822	171,509	294,037	300,657	676,534
Dominican Republic.....	911,689	1,570,276	1,845,055	1,832,575	1,895,028
Dutch.....	1,464,700	1,688,836	864,564	1,096,211	990,142
French.....	689	13,312	2,122	1,632	1,296
Haiti.....	12,757	18,936	37,419	93,428	158,561
Virgin Islands.....	95,266	65,927	84,650	134,564	143,866
Guatemala.....			101		643
Costa Rica.....			168		
Nicaragua.....	1,755	19	168		
British Honduras.....				2	
Miquelon and St. Pierre.....				847	32,362
Salvador.....					150
South America:					
Argentine Republic.....	37,856	46,011	45,202	104,794	66,569
Chile.....	87,244	1,456	76,800		29,459
Columbia.....	5,345	537		4,000	
Ecuador.....				913	
Uruguay.....	280,267	171,535	279,032	235,456	285,319
Venezuela.....	40,049	72,903	28,665	23,282	544,715
British Guiana.....	1,139		889	10,010	7,250
Dutch Guiana.....			337		
Peru.....				191,313	194,670
Brazil.....				200	
Bolivia.....				11,149	
Asia:					
China.....			1,000	1,379	516
British India.....	471,511	1,145,224	1,425,077	888,902	999,676
Japan.....	3,313	1,922	14,187	14,631	137,852
Palestine, Syria.....		30			
Philippine Islands.....			31	197	213
Siam.....			250		
Persia.....				85	
Africa:					
Canary Islands.....	8,386	10,288	8,083	11,892	11,070
Egypt.....			1,935	10,688	20,880
Total.....	89,369,624	90,504,601	95,258,264	98,810,750	92,342,329

TABLE NO. 18.—*Statement, by countries, of value of merchandise exported from Porto Rico to the United States and foreign countries for the past five years ending June 30, 1928*

Countries	Shipped from Porto Rico				
	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
United States.....	\$80,754,975	\$84,411,792	\$88,106,570	\$100,574,001	\$96,662,619
Europe:					
Poland and Danzig.....					12,000
Belgium.....	37,011	54,591	60,140	5,265	21,000
Denmark.....	6,945	5,756	25,362	8,707	2,956
France.....	205,910	131,747	106,135	129,617	8,438
Germany.....	369,491	1,274,605	1,308,263	338,042	82,903
Italy.....	519,377	705,387	958,964	15,910	7,678
Gibraltar.....	13,164	29,142	16,080		
Netherlands.....	132,989	288,284	409,258	239,575	99,829
Spain.....	589,034	694,196	1,004,339	1,285,447	821,474
Norway.....		100			
Sweden.....	40,739	103,078	108,560	27,048	17,394
United Kingdom.....	1,082	19,075	2,093	21,689	30,466
Finland.....			15,108		
Austria.....			7,024		1,990
Czechoslovakia.....			19,630		
Portugal.....				113	
North America:					
Mexico.....					3,443
Canada.....	30,582				4
Panama.....	1,038	645		3,747	9,784
West Indies—					
British.....	82,515	105,529	109,331	147,638	192,036
Cuba.....	2,736,492	3,282,942	2,910,937	1,296,128	165,872
Dutch.....	678,982	710,552	812,949	377,321	540,920
Virgin Islands.....	610,274	726,224	362,850	884,993	1,220,278
French.....	1,833	2,062	2,432	10,203	4,894
Haiti.....	3,411	21,931	68,185	96,623	286,093
Dominican Republic.....	1,269,835	1,927,879	1,994,096	2,011,942	2,900,795
Miquelon and St. Pierre Islands.....					18
Honduras.....		385			
Guatemala.....				306	2,382
South America:					
Colombia.....	210	367	1,402	1,141	14,144
Argentine Republic.....	3,269	26,292	33,634		
Venezuela.....	144,582	279,643	113,738	204,614	117,025
Dutch Guiana.....	7,000				
Bolivia.....		161			
India.....				57	
Africa:					
Canary Islands.....	1,802	8,480	2,182	9,915	1,920
Morocco.....	2,838	8,946	12,866	4,759	14,972
Spanish Africa.....	1,968	5,153	17,262	12,986	11,302
British Oceania.....					1,152
Foreign merchandise reexported.....				59,647	76,709
Total.....	88,247,339	94,818,944	98,589,390	108,067,434	103,534,739

TABLE NO. 19.—*Exports of sugar, cigars, and coffee*

Fiscal year	Sugar	Cigars	Coffee	Fiscal year	Sugar	Cigars	Coffee
1901.....	\$4,715,611	\$306,115	\$1,678,765	1919.....	\$48,132,419	\$6,657,522	\$6,065,573
1910.....	23,545,922	4,488,030	5,669,602	1920.....	98,923,750		9,034,028
1911.....	24,479,346	5,355,223	4,992,779	1921.....	72,440,924	8,103,601	5,352,924
1912.....	31,544,063	5,086,711	6,754,913	1922.....	40,820,333	6,279,054	4,316,859
1913.....	26,619,158	5,800,686	8,511,316	1923.....	46,207,276	6,911,510	3,188,002
1914.....	20,240,335	5,597,276	8,193,544	1924.....	47,838,687	5,460,119	4,595,811
1915.....	27,278,754	6,016,122	7,082,791	1925.....	53,261,895	7,105,508	6,574,983
1916.....	45,809,445	5,531,535	5,049,283	1926.....	48,223,258	7,196,365	7,070,652
1917.....	54,015,993	7,843,010	5,892,081	1927.....	54,756,984	4,227,576	5,747,932
1918.....	41,362,229	7,134,693	5,505,316	1928.....	54,579,020	3,625,561	2,596,872

TABLE No. 20.—*Summary by years*

Fiscal year	Imports	Exports	Total	Fiscal year	Imports	Exports	Total
1901-----	\$8,918,136	\$8,583,967	\$17,502,103	1919-----	\$62,400,360	\$79,496,040	\$141,896,400
1910-----	30,634,855	37,960,219	68,595,074	1920-----	96,388,534	150,811,449	247,199,983
1911-----	38,786,997	39,918,367	78,705,364	1921-----	105,479,703	112,278,575	217,758,278
1912-----	42,972,891	49,705,413	92,678,304	1922-----	64,175,149	72,172,571	136,347,720
1913-----	36,900,062	49,103,565	86,003,627	1923-----	71,944,505	82,293,050	154,237,555
1914-----	36,406,787	43,102,762	79,509,549	1924-----	89,369,624	88,280,540	177,650,164
1915-----	33,884,296	49,356,907	83,241,203	1925-----	90,504,601	94,818,944	185,323,545
1916-----	38,951,156	66,731,573	105,682,729	1926-----	95,258,264	98,724,851	193,983,115
1917-----	53,545,224	80,970,917	134,516,141	1927-----	98,810,750	108,067,434	206,878,184
1918-----	63,389,282	74,294,022	137,683,304	1928-----	92,342,329	103,534,739	195,877,068

FINANCE

The actual cash receipts of the insular government for the fiscal year 1927-28 amounted to \$12,446,219. This was the largest amount ever collected in Porto Rico and exceeded by \$1,087,394 the amount collected the preceding year. It also exceeded the revised treasurer's estimate by the sum of \$165,219. The items making this total were as follows, omitting cents:

Customs-----	\$1,932,313
United States internal revenue-----	392,143
Property taxes:	
Insular proportion-----	469,678
Proportion university tax-----	75,139
Excise taxes-----	6,640,977
Inheritance taxes-----	276,224
Telegraph and telephone receipts-----	154,978
Court fees and fines-----	65,835
Harbor and dock fees-----	39,380
Interest on loans to municipalities and schools-----	27,399
Interest on bank deposits-----	195,927
Income tax-----	2,072,548
Miscellaneous-----	103,671
Total-----	12,446,219

The total amount of receipts and expenditures from whatever source is shown in the following table:

Cash balance on hand July 1, 1927-----	\$128,257
Revenue receipts-----	12,446,219
Nonrevenue receipts-----	2,968,335
Total-----	15,542,811
Disbursements:	
Appropriations-----	10,762,822
Repayments, etc-----	2,688,086
Redemption bonds-----	53,500
Asphalting of roads-----	58,000
Capitol and park-----	104,500
Floating debt-----	1,117,104
Total-----	14,784,013
Cash balance on hand-----	758,797

It will be noticed that after paying in full all the obligations of the year, and paying \$1,117,104 on the floating debt, which was incurred by reason of the loss of revenue caused by litigation preventing the collection of taxes, there remained a cash balance on hand at the close of the year of \$758,797.

The amount of trust funds at the beginning of the year was \$6,569,222. At the close of the year the amount had increased to \$8,168,387.

The outstanding bond obligations of the insular government on July 1, 1927, was \$22,965,000. On June 30, 1928, it was increased to \$25,517,000. The increases were \$2,000,000 of public-improvement bonds; \$475,000 of Isabela irrigation bonds, and \$500,000 of irrigation construction bonds.

As showing the credit of the island, the public-improvement bonds sold at \$108.35 and the irrigation bonds at \$106.443 and \$109.267, respectively.

The bond redemptions made during the year amounted to \$423,000. The total amount of interest paid on the insular government debt was \$1,121,153. Of this amount the items were:

Guayama irrigation fund.....	\$179, 312
Isabela irrigation fund.....	142, 440
Insular bond redemption fund.....	637, 730
San Juan Harbor fund.....	6, 200
Park fund.....	4, 500
<hr/>	
Total from trust funds.....	970, 183
Paid from general funds.....	150, 970
<hr/>	
Total interest paid on bonds.....	1, 121, 153

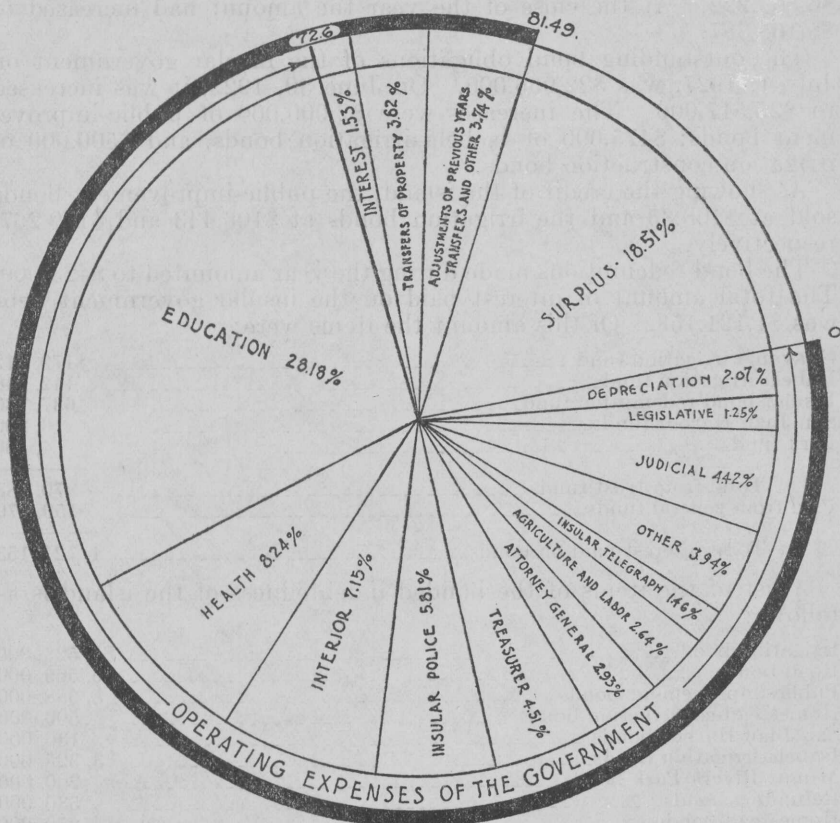
A list of the items of the bonded indebtedness of the island is as follows:

Irrigation bonds.....	\$4, 525, 000
Road bonds.....	6, 569, 000
Public-improvement bonds.....	8, 988, 000
Homestead-construction bonds.....	500, 000
San Juan Harbor bonds.....	130, 000
Isabela irrigation bonds.....	3, 325, 000
Munoz Rivera Park bonds.....	200, 000
Refunding bonds.....	530, 000
Homestead bonds.....	250, 000
High-school bonds.....	300, 000
Target range for regiment.....	200, 000
<hr/>	
Total.....	25, 517, 000

There is now available for the redemption of public-improvement bonds of 1914, 1916, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1926 and 1927 the sum of \$503,611; of 1922 and 1923, \$557,717; and \$388,861 for the year 1923, second issue. Also \$59,951 for the redemption of the San Juan Harbor bonds.

The following three charts have been prepared by the office of the insular auditor showing, in graphic form: (a) The operating revenues; (b) the operating expenses; and (c) how the revenue dollar was used. Each one of these charts is supplemented with an itemized statement containing all data in regard to amounts received from all sources, as operating revenues; all amounts disbursed by the different departments for the support of their activities; and also the proportion in which the revenue dollar was used by those departments.

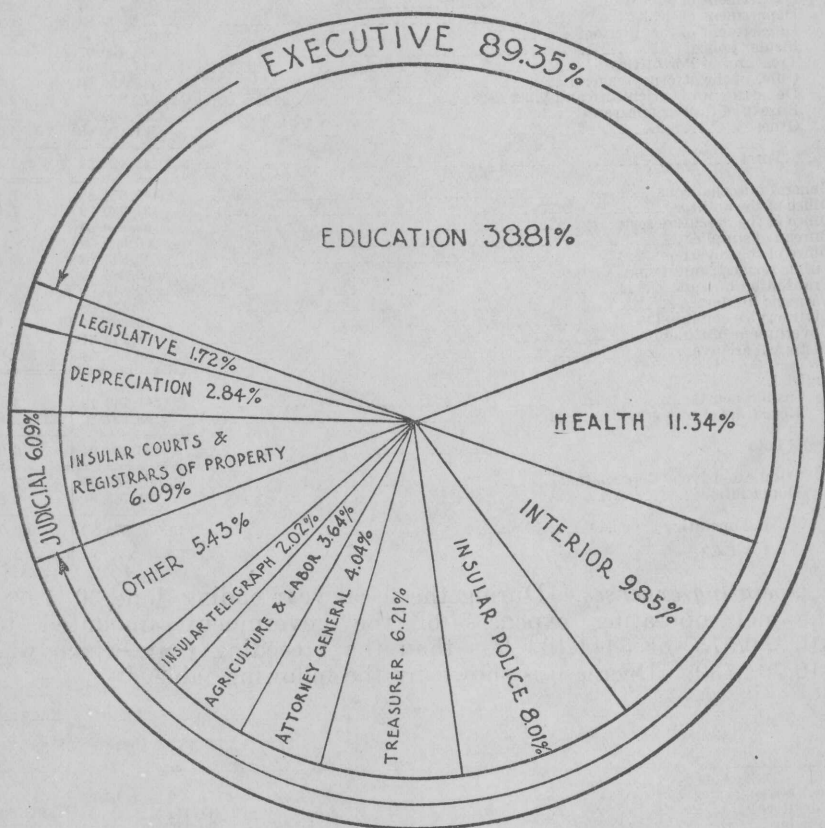
INSULAR OPERATING REVENUE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1928



	Amount	Per cent
Excise taxes.....	\$6,449,558.96	52.35
Income taxes.....	1,995,879.95	16.20
Customs.....	1,932,313.43	15.68
Property taxes.....	425,276.74	3.45
United States internal revenues.....	392,143.93	3.18
Inheritance taxes.....	273,134.05	2.22
Interest on bank balances.....	196,075.89	1.59
Registration of documents.....	190,811.10	1.55
Telegraph and telephone receipts.....	158,086.40	1.28
Miscellaneous.....	307,290.76	2.50
Fees and fines, insular courts.....	65,773.43	.53
Taxes on insurance premiums.....	60,678.10	.49
Property taxes assessed.....	55,566.61	.45
Harbor and dock fees.....	39,380.13	.32
Interest on loans to municipalities.....	27,399.45	.22
Rent of government property.....	20,487.58	.17
University tax, excess.....	11,999.20	.10
Miscellaneous income.....	9,674.52	.08
Royalties on franchises.....	8,412.18	.07
Miscellaneous fees.....	3,971.50	.04
Foreign corporation license fees.....	2,825.00	
Canon on mines.....	792.86	.03
Interest on earthquake loans.....	330.20	
Total.....	12,320,571.21	100

Insular operating revenue.—The net insular operating revenue collected during fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, was \$12,320,571, or a substantial increase of \$1,128,678, as compared with \$11,191,893 of the preceding year. Comparing the figures for 1926-27 with those for 1927-28, it will be found that item "excise taxes" has reached the

OPERATING EXPENSES UNDER INSULAR REVENUE APPROPRIATIONS FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1928



amount of \$6,449,559 or an increase of \$748,059 as compared with \$5,701,502 collected during preceding year; taxes on income, produced \$1,995,879, showing \$340,135 over \$1,565,745 collected during 1926-27; the item for customs shows \$1,932,313 or an increase of \$125,745 as compared with \$1,806,568 in 1926-27. All other items show increases and decreases of small importance.

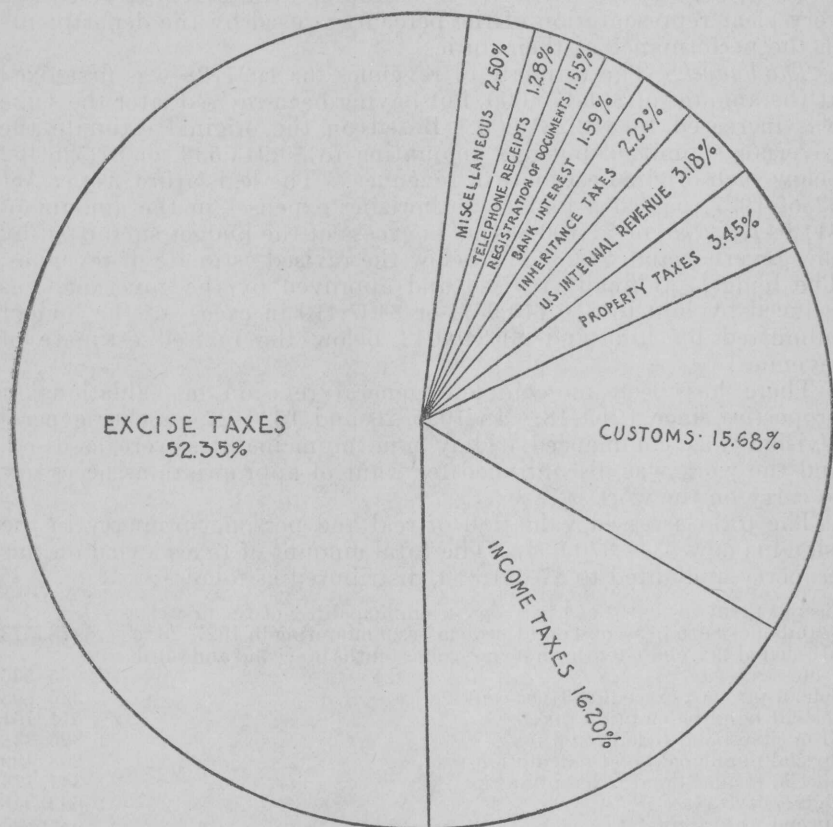
	Amount	Per cent
Legislative:		
Senate of Porto Rico.....	\$54,454.37	0.53
House of representatives.....	62,426.94	.60
Board of elections.....	61,069.40	.59
Total.....	177,950.71	1.72
Executive:		
Department of education.....	4,016,777.24	38.81
Department of health.....	1,174,190.24	11.34
Department of the interior.....	1,019,717.54	9.85
Insular police.....	828,499.97	8.01
Treasurer of Porto Rico.....	643,223.91	6.21
Office of the attorney general.....	118,337.60	4.04
Department of agriculture and labor.....	376,877.33	3.64
Bureau of insular telegraph.....	208,601.96	2.02
Other.....	561,197.45	5.43
Total.....	9,247,423.24	89.35
General miscellaneous.....	145,954.85	1.41
Office of the auditor.....	131,280.29	1.27
Office of the executive secretary.....	69,989.56	.68
Bureau of supplies.....	60,960.59	.59
Office of the governor.....	40,945.78	.40
Public service commission.....	39,256.90	.38
Translation bureau.....	22,547.60	.22
Carnegie library.....	20,331.08	.20
Civil service commission.....	15,623.25	.15
Government of Culebra.....	8,719.61	.08
Historical archive.....	5,587.64	.05
Judicial:		
Insular courts.....	541,743.18	5.23
Registrars of property.....	88,692.86	.86
Total.....	630,436.04	6.09
Total exclusive of depreciation.....	10,055,809.99	97.16
Depreciation.....	294,765.81	2.84
Total operating expenses.....	10,350,575.80	100.00

Operating expenses.—During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, the net operating expenses of the government amounted to \$10,350,575, or \$411,163 less than the preceding year, which was \$10,761,739. Decrease is shown by the following table:

	1926-27	1927-28	Increase	Decrease
Legislative.....	\$134,820	\$177,950	\$43,130	
Executive.....	9,651,223	9,247,423		\$403,800
Judicial.....	651,067	630,436		20,631
Total.....	10,437,110	10,055,809	43,130	424,431
Depreciation.....	324,628	294,766		29,862
Grand total.....	10,761,738	10,350,575		411,163

The only increase shown under legislative was due to expenses of registration incurred by the insular board of elections.

THE REVENUE DOLLAR AND HOW IT WAS USED



	Amount	Per cent
Used for:		
Operation of the executive branches.....	\$9,247,423.24	64.86
Operation of the legislative branches.....	177,950.71	1.25
Operation of the judicial branches.....	630,436.04	4.42
Depreciation.....	294,765.81	2.07
Total cost of operation.....	10,350,575.80	72.60
Interest on bonded indebtedness.....	218,310.30	1.53
Property adjustments.....	515,633.42	3.62
Adjustments of previous years.....	134,772.82	.95
Transfers.....	396,870.91	2.78
Other.....	2,125.69	.01
Total.....	11,618,288.94	81.49
Surplus for fiscal year.....	2,638,202.17	18.51
	14,256,491.11	100.00
Detail of "other":		
General miscellaneous.....	145,954.85	1.02
Office of the auditor.....	131,280.29	.93
Office of the executive secretary.....	69,089.56	.49
Bureau of supplies.....	60,960.59	.43
Office of the governor.....	40,945.73	.29
Public service commission.....	39,256.00	.27
Translation bureau.....	22,547.60	.16
Carnegie Library.....	20,331.08	.14
Civil service commission.....	15,623.25	.11
Government of Culebra.....	8,719.91	.10
Historical archive.....	5,587.64	
Total.....	561,197.45	3.94

Use of the taxpayer's dollar.—The graphic form herein inserted is a very clear representation of the percentage used by the departments in the performance of their duties.

The budget.—The estimate of revenues for 1927–28 was first fixed at the amount of \$11,470,000, but having been revised later the same was increased to \$12,281,000. Based on the original estimate the governor submitted budgets amounting to \$9,943,538, or \$1,526,462 below such original estimate of revenues. The legislature, as per Act 22 of 1927, passed a budget authorizing expenses in the amount of \$11,044,402.95, or \$1,100,864.95 in excess of the budget submitted by the governor and \$1,236,597 below the revised estimate of revenues. The budget, as finally revised and approved by the governor, was reduced by him to \$10,440,957, or \$497,419 in excess of the budget submitted by him and \$1,840,043 below the revised estimate of revenues.

There has been no complete general revision of valuations of properties since 1917–18. In 1925–26 and 1926–27 another general revision was commenced. Only nine municipalities were assessed, and the work was discontinued for want of appropriations necessary to carry on the work.

The total assessed valuation of real and personal property in the island is now \$341,370,654. The total amount of taxes levied on this property amounted to \$7,681,319, distributed as follows:

Insular tax, two-tenths of 1 per cent in municipalities of the first class and one-tenth in second and third classes, amounting in 1927–28 to	\$478, 573
Municipal tax, eight-tenths first class, nine-tenths in second and third classes	2, 935, 536
School tax, not exceeding 1 per cent	335, 198
Insular bond redemption tax	511, 761
Municipal bond redemption tax	1, 826, 338
Special municipal bond redemption tax	233, 489
Special insular bond redemption tax	341, 174
University tax	682, 348
Special water-power tax	336, 897
Total	7, 681, 319

The highest rate in any municipality is in San Juan, with a rate of 2.64. The lowest rate in the island is in Guanica and Rincon, 1.65 each. The average is about 2.10.

The total amount of taxes delinquent and unpaid at this time is \$1,614,993, of which \$102,992 is probably uncollectible.

Municipalities.—The total amount of municipal indebtedness is \$20,123,500. The principal items for which the indebtedness was incurred are as follows:

Waterworks	\$6, 621, 346
School buildings and parks	3, 499, 934
Funding bonds	1, 721, 579
Sewerage systems	1, 669, 450
Municipal roads	1, 529, 799
Streets and plazas	1, 368, 843
Hospitals	864, 756
Electric-light plants	645, 417
City halls and offices	436, 000
Markets and slaughterhouses	359, 725
Cemeteries	164, 781
Harbor improvements	200, 000

Other items include school supplies, workingmen's settlements, jails, and other smaller items.

The auditor reports that there were 76 current budgets and 62 supplementary budgets of the municipalities of the island examined and passed on by his office. Revenue estimates were reduced in 16, in a total amount of \$226,112; salaries reduced in 19, \$20,318; obligations restored in 35 amounting to \$37,834, and deficits liquidated in 10 amounting to \$16,166.

After readjustment the current budgets for the year amounted to \$6,691,199 and the supplementary budgets to \$226,730.

The collections of revenue for the year amounted to \$7,500,866. The cash balance available July 1, 1927, was \$7,207,054. Total available \$14,707,920. The total disbursements during the year amounted to \$9,054,396, leaving a cash balance at the close of the year of \$5,653,524.

The amount available for school purposes was \$1,142,996. The amount disbursed was \$1,087,167; balance \$55,828.

The auditor's office passes on proposed ordinances of municipalities for loans, for transfers of funds, and those for levying special taxes, all of which must be approved by the executive council of Porto Rico before becoming operative. Of these 222 ordinances were examined and reports made thereon to the executive council. Of these 133 were approved, 46 disapproved, 4 modified, 12 considered, and 27 were pending.

The net outstanding indebtedness of the municipalities was \$18,982,325. Thirty-nine have a credit margin of \$4,228,055; 37 have no debt-incurring capacity. Under existing law San Juan and Ponce have a debt-incurring capacity of 10 per cent of the assessed valuation of property; all other municipalities but 5 per cent.

Banking.—The number of banks doing business in Porto Rico during the year was 17, with 34 branches. The aggregate capital, surplus, and undivided profits was \$11,685,928, an increase of \$1,372,470 over the preceding year. The total deposits in checking accounts was \$15,551,781; the number of depositors was 28,112. The amount in savings accounts was \$13,725,335, with 57,318 depositors. This was an increase over the preceding year of \$1,489,988 in the amount of deposits, and an increase of 11,149 in the number of depositors.

The amount of cash on hand was \$3,473,782.

The amount of loans totaled \$54,927,963, an increase of \$6,907,130 over the preceding year.

The treasurer reports that the present banking law works well and is satisfactory to the banks and the people. However, the treasurer recommends some amendments.

Income tax.—The amount of income tax collected during the fiscal year was \$2,177,806. The sum of \$25,952 has also been paid, but under protest. The amount pending collection was \$2,233,712. Many cases are being investigated, but the number of well-trained inspectors is deficient. The number of cases in which collection is suspended is large because of claims filed or appeals taken to the board of equalization. The total amount is \$112,452.

Excise taxes.—The total amount of excise taxes collected during the year was \$7,333,661. This was an increase of \$1,183,188 over the preceding year, and was the largest amount of excise taxes ever collected in Porto Rico. The items are as follows:

Cigarettes.....	\$2, 312, 627
Sales tax.....	922, 746
Sugar tax.....	604, 862
Motor vehicles.....	581, 803
Other items.....	559, 064
Automobile licenses.....	541, 060
Occupational license taxes.....	353, 342
Notarial instruments.....	339, 724
Cigars.....	230, 963
Horse races, etc.....	166, 786
Gasoline tax.....	619, 651
Tobacco inspection.....	70, 993
Coffee inspection.....	8, 787
Fertilizer stamps.....	17, 526
Agricultural stamps.....	3, 721
Total.....	7, 333, 661

Board of review and equalization.—The board is a court of appeal to which taxpayers can appeal and have determined the validity and reasonableness of a tax levied on any individual, partnership, or corporation. During the year under review the board decided 1,364 property-tax appeals. Of these, 70 were appeals by corporations, whose property assessments were reduced from \$58,002,970 to \$55,995,790. The assessments of property of individuals and partnerships were reduced from \$8,502,620 to \$6,725,220. Income-tax appeals of corporations resulted in a reduction of \$332,213, of partnerships in a reduction of \$80,434, and of individuals in a reduction of \$50,506.

Insurance.—The amount of insurance written during the year was as follows:

Fire.....	\$116, 494, 908
Earthquake.....	10, 020, 677
Hurricane.....	16, 768, 557
Automobile.....	3, 097, 963
Ocean marine.....	43, 289, 986
Life.....	7, 317, 440

The amount of premiums collected was:

Fire.....	\$1, 106, 076
Earthquake.....	28, 939
Hurricane.....	148, 855
Automobile.....	74, 336
Ocean marine.....	135, 017
Casualty.....	543, 414
Life.....	1, 410, 779

The amount of losses paid was:

Fire.....	\$223, 086
Hurricane.....	8, 408
Automobile.....	38, 045
Ocean marine.....	9, 286
Casualty.....	207, 572
Life.....	326, 175

AGRICULTURE

The principal crop produced in Porto Rico, judged by its money value, is the sugar crop. The crop of the year under review was the largest ever produced in the island, 748,677 tons. The crop of the preceding year was 629,133 tons, 18.7 per cent less than the crop of 1927-28. Sugar prices, however, continued low throughout the year, the money value of the total amount exported being \$54,579,020, which was only slightly smaller than the total of the preceding year, which was \$54,756,984.

There was a marked increase in the production of sugar during the last four years. The 4-year average for 1925-1928 was 660,365 tons, while the preceding 10-year average was only 440,293 tons. This was an increase of about 50 per cent with no material increases in acreage. The increases were obtained in great part by varietal selection and the successful control of cane diseases.

What would be considered enormous yields in tonnage of cane and sugar produced on the plantations in the southern parts of the island, where the sugar lands were irrigated. Fields were reported producing from 90 to 100 tons of cane per acre. Marked increases in other parts of the island followed the introduction and use of better varieties adapted to the soils.

A detailed tabulation of sugar production, by centrals, for the years 1926-27 and 1927-28 follow.

Sugar crop of 1927-28 as compared with that of 1926-27

[Tons of 2,000 pounds]

Central	Location	1926-27 crop	1927-28 crop
NORTH DISTRICT			
Los Canos.....	Arecibo.....	9,189.00	10,117.000
Cambalache.....	do.....	25,530.00	30,262.750
Plazuela.....	Barceloneta.....	19,211.00	18,624.000
Monserate.....	Manati.....	8,867.00	9,080.625
San Vicente.....	Vega Baja.....	18,521.00	21,555.930
Carmen.....	Vega Alta.....	11,428.00	12,729.500
Constancia.....	Toa Baja.....	17,070.00	16,155.000
Juanita.....	Bayamon.....	9,208.00	9,337.625
Vannina.....	Rio Piedras.....	11,198.00	10,188.589
Victoria.....	Carolina.....	10,222.00	11,606.260
Canovanas.....	Loiza.....	23,951.00	28,550.000
Total.....		164,395.00	178,207.279
SOUTH DISTRICT			
Guanica.....	Guanica.....	93,031.00	111,338.000
San Francisco.....	Guayanilla.....	4,035.00	6,404.550
Rufina.....	do.....	14,260.00	18,046.377
Mercedita.....	Ponce.....	20,327.00	27,002.000
Constancia.....	do.....	3,928.00	6,630.750
Boca Chica.....	Juana Diaz.....	9,280.00	13,850.000
Cortada.....	Santa Isabel.....	13,652.00	21,030.000
Aguirre.....	Salinas.....	61,736.00	79,899.000
Machete.....	Guayama.....	19,229.00	21,171.900
Lafayette.....	Arroyo.....	17,177.00	23,401.750
Total.....		256,705.00	328,774.327
EAST DISTRICT			
Fajardo.....	Fajardo.....	43,927.00	48,679.300
Triunfo.....	Naguabo.....	5,217.00	4,925.000
Pasto Viejo.....	Humacao.....	13,037.46	18,106.259
Ejemplo.....	do.....	10,314.00	13,986.000
Mercedita.....	Yabucoa.....	19,679.00	25,782.630
Columbia.....	Maunabo.....	5,860.00	9,486.750
Playa Grande.....	Vieques.....	8,115.00	13,170.750
Puerto Real.....	do.....	6,504.00	-----
San Miguel.....	Mameyes.....	4,750.00	6,593.500
Total.....		117,403.46	140,730.189

Sugar crop of 1927-28 as compared with that of 1926-27—Continued

[Tons of 2,000 pounds]

Central	Location	1926-27 crop	1927-28 crop
WEST DISTRICT			
Coloso.....	Aguada.....	17,824.00	23,363.440
Rochelaie.....	Mayaguez.....	6,600.00	7,775.000
Eureka.....	Hormigueros.....	6,923.62	8,318.000
Igualdad.....	Mayaguez.....	6,178.00	7,412.000
Total.....		37,525.62	46,868.440
INTERIOR DISTRICT			
Defensa.....	Caguas.....	13,832.58	13,471.130
Juliana.....	Villalba.....	1,600.00	1,763.000
Plata.....	San Sebastian.....	2,768.00	3,159.850
Soller.....	Camuy.....	1,271.00	1,619.150
Santa Barbara.....	Jayuya.....	942.00	725.980
Pellejas.....	Adjuntas.....	455.81	592.380
Santa Juana.....	Caguas.....	11,880.00	6,715.340
Juncos.....	Juncos.....	20,355.47	24,231.068
Cayey.....	Cayey.....		1,818.990
Total.....		53,104.86	54,096.888
Grand total.....		629,133.94	748,677.123

Tobacco.—The tobacco crop of the year under review was less than normal, but the prices received were much better than the preceding year. The crop of 1927-28 was only 22,000,000 pounds and the amount exported amounted to \$20,777,937. The crop of 1926-27 was 50,000,000, but the amount received was only \$24,860,072. The average price of the 1926-27 crop was 22 cents per pound, and much of the crop remained unsold. The average price received for the 1927-28 crop was 27 cents, and much was sold at prices ranging from 30 to 35 cents.

The normal annual requirements of the market for our tobacco at the present time appears to be about 30,000,000 pounds. A larger production can not be sold except at a reduced and unprofitable price. Overproduction is therefore unwise and should not be encouraged. It has many bad results. It always lowers the price. It prevents a normal demand for the next year's product. It prevents high quality, which is our most distinctive advantage. Tobacco demands careful selection of seed and plants, and the utmost care in cultivation and harvesting. Still more does it demand skill and adequate facilities to put it in form to be advantageously harvested. Tobacco barns for drying and warehouses for storing have never been adequate to properly care for a crop of 50,000,000 pounds. This results in large quantities being placed on the market of inferior quality. That injuriously influences the price for the entire crop.

We have in Porto Rico the opportunity to place on the market each year a very superior quality of tobacco which can always command a good price. But the demand for a superior quality of tobacco at a profitable price is limited. Overproduction is certain to lower the quality and to lower the price. It would appear reasonably certain that our tobacco growers can be assured of a profitable crop each year if the amount is not excessive and the quality can be maintained.

Pure, selected tobacco seed of the best varieties was distributed free to planters. At the government demonstration farm at Cayey,

a large seed-bed was planted, and 952,000 plants distributed to growers. This work will be greatly extended until it will reach all the tobacco-growing sections. This will result in a marked improvement in varietal selection.

Coffee.—The coffee crop of the year was the lowest in amount produced during the past 30 years. The exports amounted to only 7,837,800 pounds valued at \$2,596,872. The amount exported the preceding year was 19,353,581 pounds, with a value of \$5,747,932. The amount exported in 1925-26 was 26,330,159 pounds, valued at \$7,070,652.

The cause of this most unfortunate falling off of the crop seems principally to have been due to the severe storm of 1926. This storm was particularly damaging in the coffee-producing regions. It did not seem at the time to be particularly destructive in its results. The effects were not seriously felt the succeeding year. But it is now thought that the vitality of the coffee trees was impaired by the storm, and that recuperation had not time to be effective during the year under review. At the close of the year, June 30, 1928, however, the coffee prospects were better than for years. The trees seemed to have fully recovered, the weather conditions were good, an unusual amount of work had been done on the plantations, all of which brought about very promising prospects at the close of the fiscal year. The coffee planters were greatly encouraged and looked forward to harvesting a large crop at very remunerative prices, which would relieve them from their embarrassments and enable them to carry out their plans for a successful future.

The warehouse inspection act.—Due to the considerable reduction of the coffee crop, the amount of coffee received in the licensed warehouses was much less than the previous year—1,760,624 pounds, as compared with 5,119,162 pounds the year before. The Federal Intermediate Credit Bank advanced on the coffee deposited in the warehouses \$379,606 to the various coffee cooperative associations at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent interest. During the previous year, although the amount of coffee deposited was larger, the amount advanced amounted to only \$302,000.

There were 16 authorized warehouses for tobacco operating during the year and 4,729,900 pounds of tobacco deposited by tobacco growers, on which \$629,044 was advanced by the Federal bank. Altogether the operation of the warehouse inspection act has been entirely successful, and close cooperation maintained with the Federal intermediate bank.

The improvement of the coffee plantations has been a special interest of the department during the year under review. The entire work has been reorganized and systematized under the direction of Prof. M. F. Barrus of Cornell University, whose services as specialist for one year were secured by the department. In this campaign the work has not been restricted to coffee alone, but other crops grown in the interior of the island have been included. This, besides demonstrations in coffee nurseries, coffee pruning, renovation and fertilization, attention and extension work given to bananas and plantains, seed selection and fertilization, potato cultivation and the introduction of yaragua grass has advanced the work all along the line. The last item, sometimes known as "molasses grass" deserves special attention. It was found by Commissioner Chardon in the coffee

sections of Colombia. There waste lands not suitable for coffee are planted to this grass, which furnishes the year around a fine and permanent pasture and is tick-free. It is exceedingly nutritious. In the coffee regions of Porto Rico it is estimated there are 233,727 acres of land, now practically worthless, which can be advantageously planted to this grass. Tests show it adapted to our soil and climate.

Standard seed beds for the production of coffee trees for planting and replanting have been established by the department. Thirty-four have already been established with 820,000 trees, and 26 with 890,000 trees. These with those previously established will produce about 2,000,000 trees. The pruning of the trees has also been considered and trials made as to the best methods. The coffee shade-tree problem is also being carefully studied. The shade trees now in use have not proven satisfactory and the introduction and use of new varieties have become necessary for the full development of coffee culture. The service of Dr. Henri Pittier, now engaged in Venezuela, and a distinguished authority on the subject, has been secured. Doctor Pittier, at our request, and under special permission of the Venezuelan Government, is now making a special study and investigation of the subject for our benefit. The cooperation of the Colombian Government has also been secured. This is considered one of the most important projects now being given attention by the department.

Fruits.—The production of fruits has shown an important increase during the year under review. The total value of fresh and canned fruit exported was \$7,538,794, while that of the preceding year was \$6,451,947. The grapefruit exports were the largest on record, 891,940 boxes, valued at \$2,704,310. The exports of canned grapefruit amounted to 10,733,709 pounds, valued at \$1,002,631. The exports of pineapples amounted to 549,280 crates, valued at \$1,654,108. The amount of canned pineapples exported amounted to 2,121,576 pounds, valued at \$142,268. Oranges were exported to the amount of 546,463 boxes, valued at \$1,286,039.

The fruit industry is being rapidly and intelligently developed in Porto Rico. There is no doubt of the superiority of the product, and as transportation and marketing conditions have been improved, the response of the fruit growers has brought about an increase of orchards, and better methods of handling the products. The quick returns from pineapple production have resulted in a large increase in acreage within the last two years. Increases are expected in all lines of fruit production.

Insular experiment station.—The insular experiment station is an important service of the department of agriculture. Its work has constantly increased in both volume and importance since its organization. This is true even under conditions which have constantly embarrassed its work. Its director, Mr. F. A. Domínguez, resigned early in the year to accept the position of cane technologist with the Grace & Co. interests in Peru, at a largely increased salary. During the last five years six highly trained men have left the service to accept more remunerative positions with private sugar interests abroad with salaries ranging from \$10,000 to \$18,000 per year. The largest salary which can be paid in Porto Rico is \$6,000. This exodus of trained men has been due to their unusual success and competence displayed during their work with the Government in Porto Rico. Although a

severe strain on the progress of the work of this station, it is an evidence that the work of the department of agriculture is of such a character as to attract the attention of other nations. The work of this station has attained in these late years a conspicuous place as one of the leading agricultural research centers in America, and certainly, the most important for the American Tropics.

Under the circumstances existing at the time of Mr. Domínguez's resignation, the commissioner of agriculture felt compelled to himself assume personal charge of the station. The work has increased in certain lines, and even extended into new fields, until it has nearly covered the field of tropical agricultural production.

An important work has been in operation for two or three years, by which the experiment station has operated in controlled experiments in cooperation with various sugar centrals and colonos. This work has proven very successful and has enabled the station to test in actual extensive field operation varieties, fertilizers, and new seedlings. Trial tests outside the grounds were conducted of canes obtained from all sugar-growing parts of the world. In 1925, 125,000 new seedling canes were bred in the insular station. These were reduced by elimination to 423 in 1926, and to 83 in 1927. They will be sent to the centrals for further tests in 1928. To secure a variety of cane immune to diseases, and with a high sucrose content for every variety of soil is the object always in view.

As an example of this work, a certain variety of cane, known as P. O. J. 2878, originated in Java, was reported as having a high sugar content, and to be immune to the mosaic disease. The commissioner secured through the Bureau of Plant Industry at Washington two seeds of that variety. They were planted at the experiment station with great care and developed into two fine plants. With the rapid method of propagation by removing and transplanting the suckers from the mother plant every three months, 600 excellent plants were obtained which will yield several thousand seeds. These will be placed with growers in various parts of the island and the results carefully recorded.

An important experiment was conducted with fields infected with the "gumming" disease, which had practically destroyed profitable production. An inspection by the commissioner resulted in the complete abandonment of the varieties planted and the substitution of new varieties. An unprecedented increase of sugar followed. The production of sugar increased 128 per cent brought about solely by this change of varieties.

Demonstration farms.—There are now in successful operation in Porto Rico eight demonstration farms. Two more are in contemplation, and a poultry farm is maintained in Guaynabo. These farms are used to demonstrate in various parts of the island the best and most practicable farm operations, to act as distributing centers of seed and plant material, as animal breeding stations, and in general to serve as a center of agricultural information and education. Cooperation with the public schools is a recent development of this work. The sites of all the farms have been located adjoining rural schools so that education in agriculture may be practically demonstrated. Students in the schools are regularly instructed in vegetable gardening, the care and feeding of animals and poultry, the home-mixing of fertilizers and in the establishment of coffee nurseries.

Two substations are being established, where the insular experiment station can continue its work under different conditions. A plant propagation station is maintained in Trujillo Alto. Work in the general distribution of plants to farms is carried on, and the various varieties, especially of citrus fruits, can be seen and examined. A cane substation has been established in the New Isabela irrigation district. It will conduct regular demonstrations under irrigation conditions. It will also establish a permanent orchard of citrus fruits and pine-apples. It will serve as a center for the demonstration of best methods of farm efficiency and be a center of consultation and seed distribution.

The forest service.—The work of reforestation has made progress during the year. A total of 779,188 trees was distributed to planters in various parts of the island. The demand was so great throughout the year that the three forest nurseries of the service could not meet it in full. There is now a total of 40,000 acres reserved for forestry purposes and these lands are scattered in 25 different municipalities. Some of the trees are now being cut in a systematic manner and are bringing a revenue without diminishing their value as forests. There are over 108,502 trees now planted on insular forest lands. A new forest nursery was established at San German. It is surrounded by mountain ridges near extensive tracts of land not being now utilized. These lands will be planted as rapidly as available for forest purposes. Circulars were published and special articles and papers were printed in the press and in the *Agricultural Review* for information and to stimulate interest for educational purposes. Plant houses are being constructed where most needed. During the year the service has secured the cooperation of some large landowners for planting their hilly and unused areas. A total of 14,235 acres of private land is now being planted under the supervision of forestry officials.

The island was visited during the year by Associate Forester Sherman and District Forester Kelley of the United States Forestry Service. A survey of the island was made by them and a report submitted which recommended extensions of the national forest and national aid to Porto Rico in its insular extension work.

Important work is planned for the coming year in connection and with the aid of the United States Department of Agriculture. The service of Dr. A. R. Shamel, from the United States Bureau of Plant Industry, has been secured, who will visit the island to study the problems of plant industry and advise plans for work at the insular experiment station. The United States Bureau of Soils will send a number of their soil experts to make a survey of soils during parts of four consecutive years, to be financed jointly by the National and Insular Governments.

Satisfactory progress has been made for the establishment in Porto Rico of a graduate school of tropical agriculture. The interest of the National Research Council of Washington was secured in the project. A special committee was appointed which reported that Porto Rico was the most available location for such a school. Visits were made to the island, reports made, and a conference had with leading authorities in the United States. In order to secure the cooperation of some large and strong institution of the United States, Dr. Livingston Farrand, president of Cornell University, Dr. A. R. Mann, dean of the New York State College of Agriculture, and professor and tech-

nical adviser, visited the island, and after an extended examination reported favorably on the proposition. The insular legislature also took action, and the proposition is expected to be carried out in the not distant future. This will result in the establishment of a school of tropical agriculture under the joint auspices of Cornell University and the University of Porto Rico.

LABOR

In general it may be said that the economic condition of laborers engaged in the cultivation and grinding of sugar cane is similar to that reported last year. However, there has been an increase of more than 10 per cent in the number of laborers employed and a longer period of activity due to a largely increased production. There has also been an increase in wages, some ranging as high as \$14 per week. There has also been an improvement in housing conditions in some instances.

In the tobacco zone there has been a marked reduction in the number employed in planting and cultivating. At one time nearly two-thirds of the farm laborers in this industry were without work. Some of these, however, secured work on the sugar plantations. The wages remained practically the same.

In the coffee-producing regions there was a reduction of men employed. The yield was very poor and the number of those employed was small. The period of active work was also lessened. Wages ranged from 60 cents to \$1.25 for field laborers, men and women. The living conditions of this class of laborers are very poor. The landowners do little to improve housing conditions for their tenant-laborers. They need better dwelling places and larger allotments of land for gardens and minor crops.

There was increased activity and a longer period of work with better wages in the fruit districts. There was also an increased number employed in the packing and canning of fruit. Men and women in large numbers received wages running from 60 cents to \$1.50 per day, the majority over \$1.

The needle work and embroidery industry has become one of the most important in the island. There is no exact data as to the number employed, since large numbers are home workers, but it would be safe to estimate the number at forty to fifty thousand women and girls. The amount earned by home workers is small, but it is a source of income greatly needed and gladly welcomed. Those working in the factories receive piecework prices, and the amount received is according to the skill of the worker. The number of factories for this work is being increased each year, especially at Mayaguez.

Those engaged in public and private construction have had at least an average amount of work. The demand for skilled carpenters, masons, painters, plumbers, and electricians seems fairly constant and the wages paid are satisfactory. Helpers' wages are small. Those engaged in government and municipal work receive \$1 per day, the minimum wage fixed by law. In private work the amount paid varies with the demand. Skilled mechanics, blacksmiths, melters, lathe operators, and welders receive from \$3 to \$4 per day.

The factories making cigars, cigarettes, and stripping tobacco are the largest in the island. These factories are located in most of the

important cities and towns. Recent strikes have reduced production to the injury of both employers and employees. There has been a reduction in the number employed in cigar making. There has been some increase in the number employed in making cigarettes, and there has been a decided increase in the number of those employed in the stripping shops.

The problems of an overpopulated territory and periods when large numbers are without work still confront Porto Rico. Unemployment, however, is both seasonal and sectional; it is not universal. There are more persons employed in any season in Porto Rico than ever before, and the periods of work are longer now than ever before. Wages on the whole are higher now than ever before. And these increases are decidedly greater than the percentage of the increase of population. There has been a large increase each year for the last five years in the amount of government work, in general business, and in the building of private residences. There has been an increased volume of trade. Transportation has largely increased. All this has created a constantly increasing demand for labor. It is true that in some places during certain periods there is little work and many idle. There are also places where there is at times a demand for labor and not enough laborers to supply the demand. These conditions are found to exist in the United States and other countries.

It is true that Porto Rico needs additional industries to create enough demand for labor to eliminate unemployment. Every effort should be made to secure new industries.

It is also true that the wages paid for labor in Porto Rico are too low. Employers who refuse to pay a living wage are following a shortsighted policy. The fact has been clearly demonstrated in the United States, and is admitted by the largest employers of labor, that low wages is a poor economic policy. The improvement made in both the quantity and quality of labor when good wages are paid demonstrates its wisdom. It is not expected that for the present at least a wage scale as high as that of the United States can be obtained, but it is clear that the wages paid in Porto Rico are too low.

MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION COMMISSION

The Mediation and Conciliation Commission was organized in 1919. It is composed of five members appointed by the Governor, two representing labor and two representing capital. The act is entitled "An act to prevent and aid in the settlement of strikes and lock-outs." Generally speaking, the functions of the commission are to intervene when industrial or agricultural controversies occur or are threatened between laborers and employers. When a controversy arises or a strike is imminent the chairman tenders its services to the interested parties. It is discretionary for the parties to accept or reject the service offered, as arbitration is not compulsory under the law. If accepted, the commission hears the parties and endeavors to take steps toward a just settlement.

During the year the striking laborers have accepted in all cases the services of the commission. The employers have accepted the intervention of the commission in most instances.

Among the most important strikes which occurred during the year, and which were settled with the aid of the commission, were the

following: At Yabucoa, February 12, 1928, 3,000 laborers at sugar centrals and on sugar plantations struck for increase of wages, payment in money, an 8-hour day, and protection of laborers. Intervention of commission accepted by both parties. Settlement secured increase of wages and improved labor conditions. On Cayey-Salinas road construction 300 laborers struck for an increase of wages and an 8-hour day. Intervention agreed to, and settlement secured increase and 8-hour day. At Comerio, December 17, 1927, 180 tobacco strippers struck for better labor conditions which were secured with the aid of the commission. At Morovis, March 5, 1928, a strike of 130 tobacco strippers occurred with similar demands and a like result. Several other disputes of similar character were settled by the aid of the commission. A threatened strike of 5,000 tobacco strippers at Caguas was settled with the aid of the commission. A strike by workers on the Aguas Buenas-Comerio road, February 20, 1928, occurred which was settled by an arbitration. Many other strikes and threatened strikes were adjusted by the intervention of the commission. The commission has acted promptly when a strike occurred or was impending, and in all cases its proffer of intervention has been received in a friendly manner which has greatly facilitated their work.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The policy of the department of education in its work as at present carried on in Porto Rico, as outlined and summarized by the commissioner in his annual report, is as follows:

Adhering to the policy of acquiring English and conserving Spanish; increasing the enrollment in both urban and rural schools; enlisting local support in sharing some of the cost of public education; stimulating the creation of more private schools; organizing upper grades in rural sections; modifying the courses of study to meet the needs and conditions of the country people; combating illiteracy; emphasizing the civic-social side when teaching the different subjects in the curriculum; introducing manual arts in the rural schools; giving more emphasis to agriculture and to the organization of clubs and vegetable gardens; emphasizing health education and physical training; training teachers in service; introducing more expression subjects in the curriculum of both urban and rural schools, and giving to teachers more participation in carrying out the policies of the department of education.

In the publicly supported schools of all grades under the department of education, there were employed 4,478 teachers, of whom 4,331 were paid by the insular government and 147 by the municipalities; 1,196 were men and 3,282 women; 3,659 white and 819 colored; 143 were from the United States and 4,335 from Porto Rico.

Classified by positions there were rural teachers, 1,925; graded, 1,597; high school, 214; special teachers of English, 200; continuation teachers, 155; principals, 51, and several special teachers of physical training, agriculture, needlework and embroidery, etc.

The total enrollment for the year was 220,940. Of this number, 127,930 were enrolled in the rural schools; 86,083 in the elementary urban schools; 6,790 in the secondary schools, and 137 were special students.

In addition to those enrolled in the public schools, 7,365 were enrolled in private schools.

Of the 214,013 elementary school pupils enrolled, 153,869 were promoted to the next higher grade; 5,198 common-school diplomas were issued, and 1,201 high-school diplomas.

There were in service 45 district supervisors, and 35 assistant supervisors; 15,864 visits were made by them to urban schools, and 19,114 to rural schools.

The legal school year consists of 10 months of 20 days each; there were nine holidays, leaving 191 school days.

The schools of Porto Rico were conducted in 2,144 school buildings, with 4,470 classrooms. Of these 1,035 were publicly owned, and 1,109 were rented. During the year 3 new sites were acquired in urban zones, and 39 in rural districts. Six new buildings were completed in urban zones, and 38 in rural districts. Twenty-one buildings are in process of construction.

The total expenditures for educational purposes by the department of education were \$4,328,890. In addition \$1,505,576 was disbursed by municipalities from their own funds. The total amounted to \$5,834,467. Of this amount \$37,250 was expended for high-school education and the remainder for elementary education.

The per capita expenditure was \$22.09 per pupil enrolled; \$19.94 for elementary, and \$52.33 for secondary schools.

Agriculture was taught in 1,844 classrooms; 17,952 home gardens were cultivated through efforts of the schools; 279 exhibitions were held. There were 1,648 parents' associations which held 1,389 public meetings. Teachers and supervisors made 124,071 visits to parents' homes, and 7,063 rural conferences were held. Five meetings of supervisors were held—two of elementary principals, one of high-school principals, and two of special teachers of English.

"The acquisition of English and the conservation of Spanish," was especially stressed. Greater emphasis on oral English was urged, and teachers' and pupils' clubs to stimulate interest and progress were organized in all the municipalities of the island. Contests were held in Spanish and English, which met with general interest and approval. Three courses were arranged in Spanish language and literature which were offered to teachers from the United States who desired to learn the language.

Special courses for teachers were offered at the summer session of the University of Porto Rico in school administration, physical culture and health education, home economics, science, manual training, industrial work, and agriculture. Over 100 teachers took summer courses in education at Columbia University in New York.

Two new bureaus in the department of education were established by the Porto Rican Legislature at its last session—health and research.

The rural schools of Porto Rico increased their enrollment over the preceding year 5,576. The amounts required to meet this increase have not been provided. Additional schools, additional equipment, better roads, more teachers—all these are necessary to keep pace with the increasing school population.

One serious defect in the present system is shown by the inequalities of the different municipalities in the amount of funds derived for the local support of the schools. The amounts ranged from 60 cents per child of school age in the poorest municipality, to \$6.64 in the wealthiest. It is proposed as a remedy that the amounts thus derived shall be placed in a common fund to be distributed in accordance with the number of school children and the needs of the municipality. The department's recommendation of support for the schools of the island is that a permanent school fund be established based on the natural

resources of the island, the sale of public lands, franchises, etc.; or on a fixed percentage of the taxes on property, similar to that for the support of the University of Porto Rico.

To meet in part the demands caused by the increase in the school population, the plan of double enrollment in urban school was adopted as a temporary expedient. This means that a teacher is placed in charge of two groups of from 30 to 35 pupils each, one in the forenoon and one in the afternoon. The plan is restricted to the first grade. This was done to allow as many children as possible to obtain some school experience, until more schoolrooms and teachers can be provided.

To combat and reduce illiteracy has been and remains one of Porto Rico's most serious problems. With insufficient funds to supply night schools and teachers for adults, the department concluded to make an appeal for local support to reduce illiteracy in each municipality. The response was very encouraging. Several thousand illiterates have been taught to read and write, and the experience gained has demonstrated the efficiency of such work. With comparatively small expenditure immediate and satisfactory results can be obtained. With aid from the local and insular government, and possibly from the National Government, to which may be added private contributions, the high percentage of illiteracy still existing in Porto Rico can soon be reduced to a low percentage, and can be almost if not quite wiped out in many of the municipalities of the island.

School lunches are provided for all those children who really need such benefit. The total amount expended during the year for this purpose was \$122,185, of which \$46,692 was appropriated in the insular budget, \$36,583 was contributed by the insular racing commission, and the remainder from municipalities and donations. The average cost per meal is about 5 cents, and the total number of meals served during the year was 2,443,700, or approximately 12,800 meals per school day. Over 6 per cent of the total number of pupils attending school enjoyed the benefit of these lunches.

The manual training and mechanical drawing program has been modified to include as many trades as possible. Industrial courses are offered in the graded as in the rural schools. Notwithstanding the lack of supplies and well-trained teachers, the results have been gratifying. The ultimate purpose will be to fully develop the natural resources of the island. In the program to be carried out emphasis will be laid on those trades and vocations economically productive in Porto Rico.

Special attention to health as one of the main objectives of education in Porto Rico is being given. Sanitary equipment is required for all the schools, standard buildings, pure water supply, materials of the best kind, etc. Time is allotted in all the grades for the teaching of health requirements and physical development. Proper habits of cleanliness of the person and a proper diet for the people are explained and urged.

During the school year under review the secondary school curriculum has been completely revised. Many new subjects have been introduced, and an attempt made to carry out the recommendations of the survey committee which visited Porto Rico in 1925.

During the year 17 high schools were maintained by the insular government and three by municipal governments. The University of Porto Rico conducts a high school at Rio Piedras as part of their teacher's training course. There were 32 continuation schools or part-time high schools, employing 155 teachers maintained during the year. In these schools 1,241 students were enrolled. Secondary education in Porto Rico should be directed toward fitting high-school graduates for useful occupations by which they can support themselves even if unable to take college courses. It would seem impossible, however, to extend vocational training further until larger appropriations are available for the purpose.

In the elementary school system the Porto Rican teachers teach all grades. The continental teachers usually teach English in the upper grades, and in some cases teach other subjects taught in English, such as history, geography, or arithmetic. The course of study covers eight years. Children are admitted at 6 years of age, and usually graduate at 14. The course of study includes arithmetic, English, Spanish, civic training, health, nature study, drawing, music, writing, geography, history, manual training, and home economics. The preparation of teachers in the grades now required is a 2-year normal course after graduation from high school. The lowest salary paid is \$700 for the first year, with an increase of \$50 per annum up to \$900. Teachers of English who come from the States receive a fixed annual salary of \$1,125, with an additional allowance for traveling expenses.

In the rural schools there are many schoolrooms without adequate equipment. In most cases the municipalities in which these requirements are lacking are poor and can not appropriate enough money from their meager receipts from school taxes to secure them.

There has been a large increase in the enrollment, 5,576 over last year's enrollment; but there has been no increase of the teaching force. The increase has been largely in the upper grades—the fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth. This has never before occurred in Porto Rico, and is a significant indication of the appreciation of the value of a better education than a mere acquaintance with its rudiments. New methods of teaching English to younger children were introduced during the year with good results. There was a great lack of books for the students. Actual needs were never supplied especially in the rural schools. More funds are also needed for school furniture and equipment in the poorer municipalities. More rural teachers are urgently needed, and assistant supervisors are needed in many districts.

There are 39 private accredited schools in Porto Rico, with a total enrollment of 7,365 students. These schools accept the requirements and standards fixed by the department of education. They are inspected at least once every year by the officers of the department. Their certificates and diplomas are accepted by the department. There were 304 common-school diplomas, and 98 high-school diplomas issued by these schools during the year.

Vocational home-economic courses were given in the fifth, sixth, and seventh grades in some municipalities during the year. In the eighth grade the work is required, also in the high schools, as part of their curriculum. There was much interest manifested in two elective courses—Porto Rican foods and graduate's wardrobe. The Home Economics Club continued their enthusiastic work. The

number of students enrolled in the elementary general course was 2,429; in the high school, 2,082; in the vocational, 1,530. This was a considerable increase over previous years.

Manual arts is a compulsory subject in the eighth and ninth grades. Courses are offered in 51 municipalities, there are 73 teachers, with a total enrollment of students of 2,506. There are two industrial schools in the island, one at San Juan, and the other at Ponce. In the San Juan school 10 teachers are employed, and there was a day enrollment of 436 and an evening enrollment of 266; total, 702. Forty diplomas of efficiency were granted during the year. The total expenditures were \$23,165. In the Ponce school, organization was effected with an enrollment of 125 pupils.

For the first time industrial work was introduced in all the courses of the rural schools. Conferences were held by which instruction was given the teachers by supervisors, teachers of agriculture, and principals. Money was principally supplied by the pupils, with very happy results. Their expenditures amounted to \$2,599, while they received from their articles sold \$7,833, a net profit of \$5,193.

The general effect was good. In many schools the pupils obtained money for the Junior Red Cross quota by selling articles made by themselves. They made their own hats and caps, and the girls wore dresses made by themselves. In some cases the product of the industrial work was sold and devoted to the school lunch room. The interest of the parents was shown by their cooperation in all these school activities. This has created a new and true vision of the many industrial possibilities of the island, and is an assurance of the continuance of the work thus inaugurated. In addition to the many public exhibitions held in different municipalities, a general exhibition was held at the central office of the department in San Juan, which excited much interest.

Seven teachers of agriculture were assigned to the seven school districts to supervise the work in the several districts and to give practical demonstrations in agriculture under the direction of a general superintendent, assisted by the supervisors of schools and the assistant supervisors. These cooperated with the extension workers of the insular department of agriculture in popularizing modern agricultural methods, in the organization of parents' associations, and in holding agricultural meetings and exhibitions. Reports show a total number of 1,844 schools teaching agriculture, with an average of 40 in each school district, with 68 per cent of successful gardens.

The results of the organization of boys' clubs show a large increase of club work over previous years, with a greatly improved quality of work. Crop projects were started in 996 cases, and 456 clubs were organized to conduct demonstrations in poultry breeding, the proper management of pure-bred swine and rabbits, with 81 per cent completing the work. The reforestation of the rural districts was emphasized, and many tree nurseries were started and developed in the schools. Many valuable trees were planted in the school grounds and about private residences. Marked improvement in beautifying the surroundings of schools was reported in 1,327 instances, and 1,241 successful school gardens were cultivated and improved. The total value of products of these gardens was over \$20,000.

Physical training was increased with added enthusiasm by students and teachers and greater interest by the public. Among the activities

carried on during the year were the training of teachers; grouping of children for play purposes according to maturity; differential training in upper grades for boys and girls; increased provision and use of school yards, playgrounds and gymnasiums; substitution in lower grades of natural plays and games for formal exercises in calisthenics; establishment of additional school parks; construction of community parks; increasing the number of athletic meets; establishment of model schools; giving public exhibitions; establishing athletic associations in all elementary and high schools of the island; teaching folk dances and folk games, and making physical training part of the curricula of the high schools.

The number of baseball teams organized was 93; number of players, 1,093; number of match games played, 221; basketball teams, 162; volley-ball teams, 266; track teams, 130; tennis teams, 17; boy scout troops, 9; girl scout troops, 14. The total amount spent for the promotion of athletics was \$37,715. The improvements in playgrounds and athletic fields were striking. New fields were opened in several municipalities; new playgrounds were built in many places, many of them very well constructed at considerable cost, one at Yauco costing \$21,000, presented by the mayor. Annual track meets are established in many towns and some in rural communities; 16 athletic associations were formed; a baseball championship arrangement was perfected among students belonging to the high schools. The increased interest manifested and the great improvement made in these activities have greatly encouraged this work along all lines.

During the year the research bureau was organized in the department of education. The work was successfully inaugurated along several lines already established in the States. The bureau of health was also organized to take charge of and increase the effectiveness of health education in the island.

Literary contests were a marked feature in the elementary urban schools. These contests were organized in all grades above the second. Declamatory contests and composition contests in both Spanish and English were held in schools, and the winners then participated in sectional contests at the principal cities. Final contests were then held at San Juan. Gold and silver medals were presented to the individual winners, and a silver cup was presented to the winning cities. Other contests were held for prizes offered by individuals.

Spanish courses for continental teachers were prepared by the department. Professional reading courses were prepared for all the teachers.

During the year a library fund was provided to increase the number of books available for supplemental reading. In several instances private contributions aided in securing books, magazines and periodicals for the use of the students. There were 732 school libraries at the close of the school year.

There are at present 23 school bands in as many municipalities in Porto Rico. These bands are greatly appreciated both by the schools and by the citizens. The expense is entirely met by the municipalities. The total amount thus expended during the year was \$16,542.

Several years ago a pension fund for teachers was established by law. A percentage of the school funds is devoted to this purpose, a percentage of their salaries is contributed by the teachers, and the Government contributes 40 per cent of fines imposed in the courts.

There are at present 234 teachers pensioned, 162 for years of service, and 72 for physical incapacity.

The Junior Red Cross of Porto Rico enters its twelfth year of existence with 269,630 members. Its collections for the year of membership dues were \$16,636 and \$1,548 from other sources; total receipts, \$18,185. Its disbursements during the year were \$15,318. It returned to local chapters \$6,319; loaned to students, \$1,146; dental clinics, \$1,200; dietetics demonstrations, \$725; school playgrounds, \$808; other items the remainder. Balance on hand, \$6,566; reserve fund, \$4,648; cash balance remaining, \$1,918. Health work received great emphasis; medicine chests for many graded and rural schools were provided; poor children were provided with clothing and medicine. Sixteen permanent dental clinics were maintained, etc.

The number of Porto Rican students pursuing courses in the best known colleges and universities in the United States is constantly increasing. The number known has now reached a total of 541. These students almost without exception take a high rank in their studies, and almost without exception these colleges and universities number Porto Rican students on their honor rolls. Teaching courses, medicine, engineering, law, commerce, and liberal arts are among the most numerous courses pursued.

The celebration of special days is a part of school work in Porto Rico. Labor Day, Columbus Day, Arbor Day, Lincoln's, Washington's, and Roosevelt's Birthdays, Decoration Day, Lindbergh's Day, Christmas Day, De Diego's and Muñoz Rivera's days, education week, boys' week, better homes week, are among those for which special programs are prepared. The patriotic aim is emphasized. The children are taught to love and be proud of Porto Rico and of the Nation of which it is a part. All school celebrations are attended by the parents and the general public. An attempt is made in these celebrations to bring about a closer relationship between the school and the home and a better appreciation of the value and ideals of school work.

The Porto Rican School Review, a monthly journal devoted to the interests of education, has successfully completed its twelfth year of existence. It is published under the direction of the department of education, and its policy is to interpret the work of the schools, to aid in school work, and to interpret the best educational standards to both the teachers and the students of Porto Rico. Its articles are kept entirely free from political and personal matters.

UNIVERSITY OF PORTO RICO

The principal seat of the University of Porto Rico is at Rio Piedras and in the vicinity of San Juan, the principal city and port of Porto Rico and the capital city of the island. The university grounds comprise a tract of 42 acres, beautifully located and conveniently situated. Here are located the principal buildings and offices of the university. The School of Tropical Medicine is located in a new and attractive building near the new capitol in San Juan. The Colleges of Agriculture and Engineering are located at Mayaguez, one of the principal cities of the Island on the western shore. The grounds at Mayaguez comprise a campus of 30 acres and an experimental farm of about 100 acres.

The university is governed by a board of trustees composed of nine members, three of these, the president of the senate, the speaker of the house, and the insular commissioner of education are members *ex officio*. The remaining six members are appointed by the governor. The chancellor of the university is appointed by the board of trustees. He is the executive head of the university.

The university is supported by a fund derived from (a) the proceeds of a 2-mill tax on all the real and personal property in Porto Rico up to a maximum of \$600,000; (b) 75 per cent of the income derived from investments of the permanent university fund, made up of 50 per cent of all fines collected; (c) tuition, laboratory fees, and other charges paid by students and the proceeds of sales of university lands and farm products; and (d) all miscellaneous receipts. The university also receives annually from the United States, under the terms of the Morrill-Nelson Acts, \$50,000 and interest to be used in the teaching of agriculture, the mechanic arts, and for other specified purposes.

The balance on hand at the close of the preceding year was \$37,172; budgeted receipts during the year, \$636,874; nonbudgeted receipts, \$9,710; total, \$683,757. The total disbursements for the year were \$669,376; cash balance June 30, 1928, \$14,381. The cash balance of the endowment fund on hand at the close of the preceding year was \$79,990; receipts during the year, \$27,116; total, \$107,106. Purchase of securities, \$28,555; cash balance, \$78,551; amount invested in securities, \$82,485; total, \$161,036.

The chancellor of the university reports that no previous year has been of so great significance as the year under review, which was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the birth of the university. Among the outstanding events were the following: Arrangements were completed for the establishment of a graduate school of tropical agriculture to be operated jointly by the University of Porto Rico and Cornell University; a social economic survey of Porto Rico by the Brookings Institution of Washington, D. C.; gifts to the university totaling \$29,500; important research work by the School of Tropical Medicine, by the department of Spanish studies, by the chemical faculty, by the Colleges of Agriculture and Engineering, and by the College of Education; the successful tour and contests of university students with prominent universities and colleges of the States; the increase of enrollment of students in the university of 19 per cent, from 2,850 in 1926-27 to 3,404 in 1927-28; establishment of a bureau of international relations; the opening to students of the women's dormitory; extension courses in the university, day courses outside the university, and evening courses inaugurated; and alumni representation on the board of trustees secured.

SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE

This school, which is now a part of the University of Porto Rico under the auspices of Columbia University, has passed through a successful year. While the regular faculty and the number of enrolled students is small, the work of the year was notable. The regular faculty work has been strongly reinforced by visits and lectures, as well as by the research work which from the first has been a leading feature of the school's activities. Dr. F. W. O'Connor, a director of the Rockefeller Foundation, formerly of the London School of Tropical Medicine; Dr. F. W. Taliaferro, professor, University of Chicago;

Dr. Haven Emerson, director and professor of public health, Columbia University; Dr. Oscar Riddle, Carnegie Foundation; Dr. R. G. Hopkins, Columbia University; Dr. J. W. Joblin, Columbia University, are among those who gave lectures and conferences, both technical and popular, during the year. Lectures, clinics, seminars, and conferences, open to the medical profession and to public-health workers, were held each week. During the school year 76 of these were given.

Research constitutes an important part of the school's activities. This work is highly important and attracts much attention and interest both here and abroad. During the year 60 scientific papers were written, most of which have already been published. It is recognized widely that the school presents and promises great opportunities in the field of investigation. Contributions to the knowledge and treatment of tropical diseases, such as sprue and uncinariasis have been made which have attracted wide attention. These and other tropical diseases may be as well studied in Porto Rico as in any other country, and the School of Tropical Medicine will afford ample opportunity for such research. Beside the notable work of Doctor Ashford and his associates of the faculty, the special studies by Doctor Hoffman, Doctor Taliaferro, Doctor O'Connor, Father Gonzalo Palacios of Valencia, Dr. Morales Otero, Professor Phelps, Dr. Haven Emerson, Dr. Costa Mandry, Dr. Alice Burke, Dr. Martha Eliot, and others are important. The work of the school under Dr. Robert A. Lambert during the two years past has been of such a character as to give it an assured place among the best schools of its class in the world.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Carnegie Library, located in San Juan, is supported by the insular government. Its management is in the hands of a board of trustees. The library follows in a general way the activities of similar public libraries in the United States, except that here the library is almost a double one, the policy being to equalize as nearly as possible the accessions in both the English and Spanish languages.

The number of accessions for the year reported was 1,764 volumes; those in English numbered 845 volumes and those in Spanish 919. Careful attention was given to the selection of books, in order to make available as nearly as the resources of the library would permit the best works in both languages. Several gifts of books were received, the number being 182 during the year. The library receives many official publications of governmental and cultural institutions. Among these are the catalogues of the most important colleges and universities of the United States, which are being much used by students who expect to pursue their studies in the States.

The number of readers for the year was 9,603, a substantial increase over the preceding year. The parcel-post service is continued and reaches all parts of the island. Lists of books are furnished readers outside San Juan from which to make selections. The traveling-library service renders very important work, and would be greatly enlarged if funds were provided. The smaller towns without libraries of any kind would be greatly benefited by an extension of this service. The demand for these collections greatly exceeds the supply. Schools and cultural associations are among

the applicants. The library is in association with the schools in supplying required technical data, collateral reading, and is often visited and greatly appreciated by both teachers and students.

A well selected and constant supply of leading magazines, journals, and newspapers are always on file and available for the public. The list includes many of the leading periodicals of the United States, Spain, South and Central America, France, Italy, the West Indies, and other countries. The reference department is as complete as is possible and is in constant service, especially by the students of the schools and the university. Information requiring research work is freely given within the limits of the staff.

The daily visitors to the library averaged 262 during the year, which was an increase over the preceding year.

The appropriation received for the support of the library for the year was \$24,086. The expenditures were \$24,076; balance, \$9.98.

The resources of the library are too small for such a library in the capital city, whose inhabitants now number 100,000 people, and the only library of its scope and character in a population of 1,400,000 people. It is apparent that the appropriation for its support should be greatly increased. Private donations from those who desire to help those who are trying to help themselves, and who feel an obligation to do something for the good of the people of their country could not find a more worthy object.

HEALTH AND SANITATION

The commissioner of health is appointed by the governor, and according to the provisions of the organic act has "general charge of all matters relating to public health, sanitation, and charities." The principal activities of the department will be referred to under appropriate heads.

Typhoid fever.—It is known that typhoid fever in the tropics is one of the main public-health problems. This is true in Porto Rico, and the records show that there has been a definite increase in recent years. The highest rate of mortality recorded is that of the year under review—24.76 per 100,000. Fifty-eight per cent of the deaths were from the rural zone, and only 16.94 per cent were from the urban zone. The location of the remainder was not stated in the reports. Two serious epidemics occurred, one at Aguadilla and one at Fajardo. The cause was definitely traced to contamination of the public water supplies. Forty-eight minor outbreaks were reported during the year. The total number of cases reported was 1,149 and 360 deaths. An intensive campaign was carried on during the year. Vaccination and sanitary preventive measures were those most used.

Diphtheria.—It is believed by some authorities that diphtheria is a rare disease in the Tropics. But in Porto Rico it is prevalent enough to demand attention. The number of cases reported during the year was 672, with 99 deaths. The mortality rates resulting from this disease for the years from 1915 to 1928, inclusive, show an upward trend, the rural and urban populations being affected about equally. No seasonal prevalence is shown. Thirty-five municipalities reported no cases. The prevalent zones have been mapped. An intensive toxin-antitoxin campaign will be carried on in the affected districts. Free antitoxin will be distributed by the department of health where most needed.

Malaria.—One of the most serious health problems in Porto Rico and one of the most difficult to control is malaria. The configuration of the island, with a mountainous interior and low-lying, flat coastal plains entirely surrounding it between the mountains and the sea; with a heavy interior rainfall and numerous rivers and smaller streams conveying the flood waters throughout the coastal plains to the sea; with extensive irrigation districts in which the waters are collected and distributed through broad areas; with many extensive mangrove swamps near the coasts; with depressions in the flat lands where flood waters accumulate—all these afford thousands of breeding places where the *Anopheles* mosquitoes, which carry the malaria infection, are bred.

Under these conditions certain sections are more subject to the disease than others, and surveys have been made locating the principal sections where the disease is most prevalent. It has been found that with conditions so variable methods of prevention and cure must be carefully studied and preventive and curative measures be made applicable accordingly.

Improvement always follows study and treatment. Many areas of infection have been treated and others are under observation and study. All the resources of the department are being exercised to the limit, and assistance has been rendered in some cases by the municipalities. As a result there has been already a definite decline in mortality from this cause. When life is thus definitely saved, suffering and the resulting incapacity being reduced, there is every encouragement for increased activity and support.

Methods of prevention which have been and are being used are numerous, and include drainage, both surface and tile; keeping small streams clear of obstructions; removal of vegetation from the edges of creeks and ponds; keeping the canals and laterals in irrigation districts free from accumulations and obstructions; the use of petrol on stagnant waters and of Paris green wherever applicable; outlets to the ocean from low areas secured, and in some cases flood-gates removed—all these have been used with varying results.

For treatment and cure after the acquirement of the disease, quinine is used. It is furnished free to persons unable to purchase. All acute cases are thus treated and the treatment is usually continued for six or eight weeks.

The surveys will be continued, and conditions recorded in order that the work of prevention and cure may be carried on and made more effective from year to year. Larger appropriations by the insular government for this purpose are greatly needed. Cooperation by the municipalities and by the landowners should be greatly increased. If this were done the mortality and sickness from this disease could much more rapidly and much more effectively be reduced.

The number of deaths from malaria during the year 1926-27 was 2,103. It was reduced in the year under review to 1,861.

In order to train a local man on malaria control, a fellowship has been given to graduates. By this means it is hoped to obtain efficient local supervision after the initial work of eradication has been completed. A graduate will also be sent to the States to study surface and subsoil drainage. Another will be sent to take a special

course in entomology, with particular reference to mosquito prevention and extermination.

Tuberculosis.—Tuberculosis holds its place as one of the principal causes of mortality in Porto Rico. The number of deaths which occurred from this cause during the year under review was 3,451. This was a decrease of 156 below the preceding year, and is the first time for several years a decrease has been shown. The number was 12.1 per cent of the total causes of mortality in the island. The death rate of Porto Rico from tuberculosis during the year 1915-16 was 175.33 per 100,000. In 1927-28 it was 237.34. The increase for this 12-year period was serious.

During the year under review 5,024 cases of tuberculosis were reported. Hospitalization is possible only in a very small degree. In order to provide some aid in those municipalities having the highest rate of mortality, the department has established free dispensaries. This service is greatly appreciated and will be extended wherever possible. There is active cooperation manifested in many municipalities.

The antituberculosis campaign which was instituted by the department some two years ago is bearing fruit. It has been shown that the increase in cases reported for the last few years is due not so much to an actual increase, but largely to more general and more careful diagnoses by physicians. During the last five years over 15,000 persons having symptoms of tuberculosis have been examined in the Government dispensaries. Thousands of cases are being thus discovered that would not otherwise have been reported and could not otherwise have been treated. There were 4,709 patients thus examined in the clinics during the year under review, and 10,107 consultations held. Of the patients attended 2,502 were dismissed and 2,207 were registered for observation and treatment.

The antituberculosis sanatorium, located at Rio Piedras, adjacent to the grounds of the new insane asylum and the new penitentiary, and on a beautiful site overlooking the harbor and cities of San Juan and Rio Piedras, continues its record of successful service and receives the enthusiastic praise and approval of visitors. The number of patients remained practically stationary, for the capacity of the sanatorium was fully in use. However, one new cottage has been completed and six more are nearing completion. If instead of seven there were 70 new cottages built the demand would not fully be met. Alterations have been made in the children's hospital building which will almost double its capacity. A new general kitchen with modern equipment is nearly finished, as are also three new dining rooms for patients. The cafeteria system of service has been adopted. An extension to the employees' dining hall has been added, and an old building transformed into a storeroom. A new modern water supply and sewerage system has been constructed in connection with the new insane asylum and the new penitentiary which will provide ample service and supply of pure water and sewage disposal for all these institutions. The sanatorium is considered a model both in appurtenances and management, and deficient only in capacity.

Lepers colony.—The colony for lepers is at once an asylum, a hospital, and a home. It is admirably located in the interior of the island near Trujillo Alto. It consists of a tract of land consisting of 42 acres, with new and attractive concrete buildings. There are 15 separate

cottages for inmates, also dining halls, a clinic building, a laundry, a large administration building for offices, with living quarters for the superintendent, his assistants, and for nurses and employees. The grounds are being attractively landscaped, and there are vegetable and fruit gardens. The number of patients June 30, 1927, was 57; admitted during the year, 6; died, 4; removed, 1. Patients remaining June 30, 1928, 58. Of those reported 37 were males, and 26 are females; 40 were white and 23 colored; 56 were adults and 7 were children. Those improved during the year 22. The most successful treatment was what is known as ethyl esters of chalmoogra. A small orchard of chalmoogra trees is being grown on the grounds.

Uncinariasis.—The year under review has not been quite up to the standard of previous recent years in results in the campaign for the eradication of uncinariasis, the "hookworm" disease. The work has been carried on during the year by the bureau of rural sanitation with the same intensity and with better-trained personnel. But the localities where the treatment was carried on were in the interior, mountainous regions where the principal products were tobacco and coffee, and where the economic conditions of the population were not good. In these regions roads of any kind are rare, and living conditions are backward. To reach and treat the entire population within such a region requires much more time and exertion than where the population is more dense and living conditions better. For this reason the number of treatments and cures is necessarily less, although the effort is even greater. When this is understood, the record of the year's work is in every way creditable.

The total number of persons examined, 1921-27, was 335,433; number found infected, 269,170; number treated, 278,643; number of treatments, 776,505; number cured, 233,052. The record of the year 1927-28 was: Number of persons examined, 67,496; number found infected, 53,090; number treated, 46,337; number of treatments, 89,533; number cured, 37,934; number of latrines constructed and approved, 12,192.

Social medicine.—Among the activities of the bureau of social medicine is the establishment of public health dispensaries with complete files, a properly qualified staff of paid physicians, with visiting nurses, and open clinics for tuberculosis, child welfare, maternity, and venereal diseases. Twenty-five such dispensaries have already been established and are in successful operation. A systematic educational campaign has been instituted and is carried on with the teachers, in the schools, with moving pictures, health posters and pamphlets, conferences, and classes on nutrition and sanitation. The interest taken is great, and the results most promising. A "society for the prevention of tuberculosis in children," has been formed, supported exclusively by private contributions. It is now building a preventorium at Guaynabo, at a cost of \$15,000. The "Antituberculosis League" have completed and turned over to the department a \$20,000 building as a center for tuberculosis and child welfare clinics in San-turce. Many of the cities and towns where dispensaries have been established have supplied appropriate quarters for them. Some pay for nurses, some supply medicines needed, some have provided hospital service. Two essential elements of successful public health work have been introduced by the efforts of this bureau, the visiting nurse and the social worker. Municipal health units are being estab-

lished in the various municipalities where the municipal cooperation can be secured. This method is thought to be the best method of local health service so far devised. It is believed that the decline in the mortality of tuberculosis from 3,842 last year to 3,607 this year, and the decline of mortality rate of 267 per 100,000 inhabitants in 1926-27 to 248 in 1927-28, is due in part at least to these activities. Infant mortality has also decreased. In 1925-26 it was 150 per 1,000 births; in 1926-27 it was 167; in 1927-28 it was 146.

The total number of patients recorded in the dispensaries during the year was 21,343. Of these 10,141 were child-welfare clinics; 4,709 were tuberculosis clinics, and 3,888 were prenatal clinics. The visiting nurses made 19,408 home visits. Consultations with physicians of tubercular patients numbered 10,107. Attendants at dental clinics, 1,601.

The biological laboratory of the department made 50,377 examinations during the year for malaria, tuberculosis, diphtheria, typhoid fever, leprosy, and other diseases.

During the year the bureau of sanitary engineering approved 3,370 plans for the construction of buildings; 236 of building extensions; 14 urbanizations; 7 municipal water supplies; 4 sewerage systems, and 2,337 sanitary installations. The examining board for plumbers admitted 6 as qualified as master plumbers and 10 as journeymen plumbers. Mayaguez was the leading city in urbanization, four being approved. The most important water-supply systems were in San Juan, Mayaguez, Arecibo, and a purification plant at Ponce, nearly completed. The percentage of the urban population of the island that now have an adequate and purified water system is 54 per cent; those that have a water supply but without purification plants, 36 per cent; without any water system, 10 per cent.

Inspections.—The island of Porto Rico has but few industries. In connection with the production of cane, which is an agricultural activity, there are extensive and expensive centrals, or factories for the manufacture of sugar, which is a manufactured product. Also the production of tobacco is to some extent joined with the manufacture of cigars and cigarettes in factories. There are some other small factories for the manufacture of clothing, furniture, and other like articles. It is incumbent on this bureau to see that safe and sanitary conditions are instituted and maintained in such establishments. During the year under review 9,590 visits of inspection were made; 1,331 were approved; 290 were deficient, and 468 were closed. During the year the inspectors of the department also inspected 150,751 houses, 227,719 food-handling establishments, and 109,515 municipal dependencies, including cemeteries, hospitals, clinics, slaughter-houses, jails, asylums, and markets. The following establishments were also visited to enforce compliance with the requirements of the law, milk establishments 405, bakeries 254, groceries 7,599, cafés 893, hotels 113, restaurants 438, barber shops 566, fruit and vegetable dealers 1,382, and some others. Cases were brought in court to enforce laws in 6,953 cases; convictions were secured in 4,083 cases; there were 1,584 acquittals; 1,286 are pending.

The number of animals, cattle, hogs, and goats slaughtered for food during the year was 90,637. The number of liters of milk recorded in stations was 20,959,760. The milk supplied for San Juan from inspected and approved dairies was 7,559,150 liters.

Vital statistics.—The estimated population of Porto Rico, June 30, 1928, computed arithmetically, was 1,454,047.

The number of births registered during the fiscal year 1927–28 was 53,085, or a birth rate of 36.5 per 1,000 population. It was slightly less than the two preceding years. The number of the white race was 40,775, or 76.8 per cent. The number of the colored race was 12,310, or 23.2 per cent. Males were 27,202, females 25,893.

The number of persons married during the year was 20,752. This was 924 more than the preceding year.

The number of deaths recorded during the year was 29,682. This was 3,880 less than during the preceding year. The death rate declined from 23.3 per 1,000 population for the year 1926–27, to 20.4 per 1,000 in 1927–28. This death rate is the lowest one recorded within the last 13 years with one exception.

The mortality for the most important causes was as follows:

Diarrhea and enteritis (under 2 years).....	4, 122
Tuberculosis (all forms).....	3, 607
Diarrhea and enteritis (2 years and over).....	1, 903
Malaria.....	1, 861
Broncho-pneumonia.....	1, 509
Chronic nephritis.....	1, 431
Diseases of the heart (all forms).....	1, 382
Congenital debility.....	1, 377
Senility.....	1, 167
Bronchitis (all forms).....	1, 120
Total number of deaths:	
Under 1 year.....	7, 778
1 to 2 years.....	3, 027
2 to 5 years.....	2, 773

The greatest mortality for any period following these years was the period from 30 to 39 years when it was 2,266.

INSULAR BOARD OF HEALTH

The insular board of health is an advisory and regulatory body in matters pertaining to the public health. It is composed of seven members. It has power under the law to prescribe sanitary rules and regulations for the prevention and suppression of contagious and epidemic diseases. It acts as an auxiliary to the insular department of health, and its orders, when approved by the executive council, have the effect of law.

During the year under review the board held 12 regular and 10 special meetings. Matters within its province were duly considered. A thorough inspection of all factories for the pasteurization of milk was made, and the required regulations ordered. New regulations governing registered medicinal formulas and patent medicines were also made. Revised and additional regulations were considered, including bread acidity, rat proofing, apartment houses, smoke prevention, transmissible diseases, registration of factories producing molasses, medical inspection of schools, and prophylaxis of venereal diseases.

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

This board was created in 1903, and is at present composed of five members. It holds examinations, and is authorized to issue licenses for the practice of medicine and surgery, optometry, osteopathy, midwifery, nursery, and minor surgery. Before being allowed

to take the examination an applicant must submit to the board a diploma from an accredited medical college or university. The board is authorized to give reciprocal exemption from examination with States of the Union whose boards require the highest degree of professional training.

During the year 16 candidates to practice as physicians and surgeons were examined; 15 passed. One optometrist was examined and passed. Five minor surgeons were examined; one passed. Fifty-six nurses were examined; 48 passed.

Inspections were made by the board, in conjunction with the commissioner of health, of various hospitals and clinics in accordance with law. The board earnestly strives to keep the standards of the profession high in Porto Rico, and the reputation of the profession in the island is among the best in any country.

BOARD OF PHARMACY

The board of pharmacy held several meetings at which were considered new rules regulating examinations for pharmacists and examinations for admission. Altogether 36 candidates were admitted. Duplicate licenses were granted to four applicants. Other meetings were held during the year to consider matters affecting the practice of pharmacy in Porto Rico.

BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

This board was created in 1905. It is composed of three members whose duty it is to examine candidates for admission to the practice of dentistry in Porto Rico. Its examinations are held twice each year.

During the year several meetings were held to consider matters affecting the service of the profession. The first examination was held in July and August, 1927. Six candidates were passed. The second examination was held in February, 1928. Only one applicant appeared, who was passed as qualified.

Effort is being made to keep in touch with the boards in the United States to keep abreast of the best practice and to be able to suggest needful amendments to local laws.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Among the many important branches of this service none is more important than that of—

Public roads and bridges.—During the fiscal year 1927–28, 91.2 kilometers of insular roads were surveyed. The amount of municipal roads surveyed was 25.8 kilometers. During the year 40.6 kilometers of projects were prepared, bids advertised, contracts awarded, and construction work begun. Designs for all bridges and culverts are prepared in this division, from which plans and specifications are made.

The fiscal year under review was unfortunate in construction. At its commencement funds were exhausted. A bond issue was authorized June 4, 1927, but the sale was delayed several months. For that reason construction work was not commenced until the beginning of the second half of the fiscal year. As a consequence the total annual

construction work did not compare favorably with that of recent years. However, weather conditions were favorable during the latter part of the year, and more than the average amount of work was done compared with a like previous period. The total amount expended on construction during the year was \$781,205. The total length of macadamized roads completed during the year was 32.1 kilometers. The total length of bridges completed was 316.63 meters. The division also directed the construction and repairs of municipal roads to the extent of 50.3 kilometers, involving an expenditure of \$117,486.12.

The total amount of macadamized roads completed in Porto Rico, June 30, 1928, was 1,705 kilometers, of which 275 kilometers were constructed by the Spanish Government, and 1,430 kilometers were constructed by the American Government. The total amount expended for road work from 1916 to June 30, 1928, was \$12,818,395.

The amount appropriated for the maintenance of roads and bridges for the year was \$818,079. The amount derived from the gasoline tax of 4 cents per gallon, which is applied exclusively in asphaltting the roads, was \$618,450; making an expendable total of \$1,436,529. Of this \$1,354,406 was expended during the year.

At the commencement of the year there was 48,886 gallons of asphalt on hand. During the year 783,353 gallons were purchased, making available 832,239 gallons. Of this amount 719,701 gallons were used. The length of roads completely asphalted during the year was 148.50 kilometers, previously completed 662.12 kilometers, making a present total of 803.22 kilometers. The total amount of money expended for asphalt work during the year was \$618,450.04.

There was also expended during the year, for items connected with the public-road work, for sand and binding material, \$4,496; for crushed stone, \$334,126; salaries and work of road menders, \$216,664; removal of landslides, \$61,838; purchase of tools and machinery, \$98,678; repairs of bridges and culverts, \$73,372; salaries and work of overseers, section foremen, etc., \$120,363.

Public buildings.—During the year under review the progress made in public building was satisfactory. The program for the building of rural schoolhouses for which a bond issue was provided was carried on as rapidly as suitable sites could be obtained. To this date \$690,000 has been expended and 276 schoolrooms provided.

After some delay in the delivery of material, work was resumed on the capitol building. It is expected that the next legislature, which convenes in February, 1929, will meet in the new building. That will mean the completion of the halls for the senate and house of representatives, the adjoining offices, committee rooms and dependencies, stairs and stair halls, and the lower part of the central rotunda. The marble work of the interior is very beautiful, and may well bear comparison with the exterior which is universally admired. The work will be carried on to completion as rapidly as funds can be provided. It is expected that it can be completed with funds derived from the sale of government lands and property which may be disposed of for that purpose under authority granted by the legislature. The work may be slow in completion, but it is better so than to either use inferior work or material, or to secure additional funds by bond issues if it can be prevented.

The construction of the new penitentiary was started since the last annual report and the work has been successfully begun and

carried on since. The plan, for which the most careful preparation was made, is proving of exceptional interest and value. When completed it is now apparent that it will be a model of its kind. It will be ready for occupancy probably by the close of the fiscal year, 1928-29.

The buildings which constitute the new asylum for the insane are completed. The buildings for the doctors' houses, the nurses' cottages, and a building for the male employees are under way. The plumbing, electric lighting, water connections, sewerage, etc., are also nearing completion. It is expected that it will be ready for occupancy within the present current year.

The insular hospital building, connected with the School of Tropical Medicine, is now ready for occupancy. The building is perfectly adapted for its intended purpose, is beautifully located, and will meet a long desired demand. The total cost was \$89,000.

The annual amount now provided in the budget for repairs and maintenance of the insular public buildings is only \$55,000. The commissioner of the interior has repeatedly called attention to the inadequacy of this amount. It is a matter of poor economy to allow public buildings to deteriorate because of want of repairs. It has been shown that the amount needed is not less than \$100,000, and it is hoped that in future an adequate amount may be provided to prevent the further injury and decay of insular property.

The total amount expended during the year on school buildings was \$324,900; on municipal buildings, \$228,222; on insular buildings \$950,109; on repairs \$55,000; grand total \$1,558,232.

Municipal works.—A special division of the insular department is devoted to the advice and assistance of the municipalities of the island in the construction and maintenance of their municipal public works, such as the grading, paving, and draining of their streets and alleys; the institution of water systems and purification plants and other sanitary appliances; the institution of adequate sewerage systems; the building of municipal quarters for the officers, police, etc.; of schoolhouses, hospitals, markets and slaughterhouses; the institution of adequate electric lighting, telegraph, and telephone services. Plans for these and supervision are made by the insular department, and inspection and approval of the work is required. No loan of any amount for any purpose can be made by the municipality without the approval of the insular executive council, composed of the heads of departments and the governor.

The filtration plants for Arecibo and Mayaguez have been completed within the year, and that for Ponce is nearing completion. The important filtration plant of the city of San Juan was completed within the year and is now in successful operation. Other projects are under consideration, and are receiving the cooperation of the insular government.

This division also assists in all insular work requiring technical knowledge or special study. Under its direction and supervision have been executed the extension of waterworks to the University of Porto Rico; the improvement of the park in the workmen's settlement of San Juan; the urbanization of lands in Puerta de Tierra; all of which were completed within the year. The waterworks and sewerage systems for the insular insane asylum; the penitentiary; the tuberculosis sanatorium; and the Munoz Rivera Park in San Juan are in course of construction.

Of administrative works contracted in preceding years and terminated during the fiscal year there were in amount \$540,821; works contracted and terminated within the year, \$96,961; works contracted and under construction at the end of the year, \$793,189; works executed by administration, \$119,684; total value 84 works, \$1,550,655.

Public lands and archives.—This division has in its charge the survey, care, and leasing of all the lands belonging to the people of Porto Rico, and their registration. It keeps a record of all buildings and lands belonging to the people, showing their area, value, description, etc. Part of these lands and buildings were originally owned by the Crown of Spain, by it transferred to the United States, and by it transferred to the people of Porto Rico. Other lands came into the possession of the insular Government from private owners by process for nonpayment of taxes. The division also has charge of the surveys of sites for schools and municipal buildings. The old archives of the Spanish Government, containing documents of great importance are also under its care.

The total area of lands surveyed during the year was about 5,231 acres. The cost per acre was \$5.16.

Certain transfers authorized by the legislature were made during the year of certain lots and lands, the proceeds of which are to be used for the completion of the capitol building, 50 in number, for which a total of \$41,386 was received. Rentals were received from public lands amounting to \$8,951.

Bureau of insular telegraph.—Due to a reduction made in the annual appropriation the activities of this bureau for the year were principally confined to the repair and maintenance of existing lines and offices. However, a good reinforced concrete building was erected in Ponce on a well-situated lot donated by the municipality. At present 93 government offices have been furnished with telephone service. The bureau has at present 72 telegraph offices. It has also in operation two wireless stations. The amount of receipts for the year was \$200,266; amount of expenditures, \$210,833; loss, \$10,566.

Irrigation service and utilization of water resources.—This service was considerably extended during the fiscal year under review. Construction work on all features of the Toro Negro irrigation and water power development was started and actively prosecuted. There was a large increase in the demand for power in the irrigation district which necessitated the construction of quite a number of new branch lines and hastened the completion of transmission lines of larger capacity. Preparation was made to dispose of the power from the Toro Negro plant as part of the general scheme to transmit electric power to all parts of the island. Remodeling and important additions to the Carite system were made; and the main transmission and distribution lines were extended westward from Ponce to Sabana Grande, a distance of 55 kilometers.

With but a slight increase in the number of engineers and office force all this new work was handled with the old organization.

Weather conditions in the irrigated district were nearly normal. Rainfall was 7.7 per cent above the normal in the whole district. Full deliveries were made during the first part of the year. During the second half of the year deliveries were somewhat restricted.

There was expended for necessary repairs \$2,739; for improvements, \$15,970. The gross revenue received from the sale of electric energy and power service amounted to \$349,224, which is an increase of \$52,655 over the amount received during the preceding year. The gross income was 1.89 cents per kilowatt-hour. Night surplus power was sold to the Ponce Electric Co. during 180 days of the year, resulting in a total sale of 219,378 kilowatt-hours.

An extension line of 33.34 miles from the Carite power plant to the Toro Negro interconnecting tower was built at a cost of \$89,757. A section of the line from Guayama to Pastillo was rebuilt, 28.72 miles, at a cost of \$74,391. Another section of the line from Guayama to the Carite power plant was rebuilt, 4.62 miles, cost \$15,365. Extensions were made to the distribution system at a cost of \$3,600. The automatic substation at Guayama was completed during the year. The total cost was \$31,254. A new equipment at the Salinas substation was placed in operation at a cost of \$12,389. Improvements were made at the Santa Isabel substation, involving an expenditure of \$5,266. The total expenditure for operation, maintenance, development, and extension of the hydroelectric system for the year was \$247,942.

The Toro Negro project now under construction is a most important water power project. It provides reservoirs on the headwaters of the Toro Negro and Matrullas Rivers, and the diversion of the waters of these streams augmented by the natural flow of the Doña Juana Creek through the already constructed Toro Negro Tunnel to the south side of the insular divide. At the power house a head of 1,650 feet is available, which will generate 6,000 horsepower. After this development of power, the water will be stored and then converted into use for irrigation. Work is well under way on the dam, and all parts of the system are being constructed simultaneously as far as circumstances will permit. The power developed will become a part of the interconnected system of the government's Carite hydroelectric system and the Ponce Electric Co., in a distribution system being built in the territory between Ponce and Sabana Grande, and in the extensions to be built later. This will furnish service in an entirely new territory.

Work on the hydrographic survey was continued during the year, with a number of stream gaugers located at different places reporting their findings at the central office of the service at Guayama. New stations were established during the year on the Arecibo, Vivi, Mariacao, Caonillas, Chiquito, Toro Negro, Yauco, and Matrullas Rivers. Surveys have been made at various places to determine the power possibilities and the probable cost of development.

The total receipts accruing to the irrigation fund during the year were \$914,482; total payments, \$758,360.

The total debt incurred by the irrigation service amounts at present to \$6,775,000; amortization payments made, \$2,250,000; bonds outstanding, \$4,525,000.

Isabela irrigation system.—The construction of this service was begun in 1924 and is now approaching completion. The irrigation and power divisions have been completed and are in partial operation. Only the distribution division is incomplete. The dam, which is now complete, is a little over 100 feet in height above the river bed. Its length at crest is over 800 feet. The reservoir will cover an area

when full of 1,000 acres, with a minimum depth of over 90 feet, and will have an available storage of over 40,000,000 cubic yards. The volume of earth and rock excavated amounts to about 175,000 cubic yards, and the amount of concrete placed to about 8,700 cubic yards. All the main canals are completed and in operation. Numerous laterals branch from the main canals to deliver water to the irrigable tract. Most of the laterals and sublaterals are already built and in operation.

The power plant is located at the end of the diversion canal. The machinery is housed in a reinforced concrete building. Transmission lines to furnish power and light to Aguadilla, Moca, Isabela, Quebradillas, Camuy, and Hatillo have already been built, and lines to Aguada, Rincón, and Añasco are under construction. The length of these lines will exceed 50 miles.

The flow of water into the reservoir is much greater than necessary. For this reason the reservoir has not been allowed to fill. Water is being delivered as lands are prepared to receive it. At the close of the year 3,350 acre-feet were delivered to 6,300 available acres.

The income from power delivered is at the average rate of $3\frac{1}{4}$ cents per kilowatt-hour.

The area of farm lands in the temporary irrigation district is 11,199 acres. The size of the farms is as follows: 429 are from 1 to 2 acres, 371 are from 2 to 5 acres, 202 are from 5 to 10 acres, 139 are from 10 to 20 acres, 84 are from 20 to 50 acres, 16 are from 50 to 100 acres, 16 are over 100 acres.

The large number of small farms in this district is remarkable. The service estimates that there are at least 4,000 acres of irrigable lands not included in this temporary district which can be served and which will be included when the permanent district is formed. The result of irrigation will bring more intensive cultivation and a large increase in production. It is expected that the necessary credit for improvements will be furnished by the Federal intermediate credit bank. An experimental and demonstration farm has already been established by the insular government. The homestead commission will purchase those tracts whose owners are not willing or able to cultivate under irrigation for the purpose of establishing model homesteads. Beside the large amount of lands which will be devoted to cane production, it is expected that the district will be largely converted into a vegetable and fruit-growing district. Aid will be given the irrigator through the first few years of operation, and encouragement to the organization of cooperative associations will be given.

Harbor board.—The San Juan Harbor Board is formed by the commissioner of the interior, the mayor of San Juan, and three other members appointed by the governor.

The board has general charge and supervision of the port of San Juan and of its improvements, except the dredging, which is done by the Federal Government. The board operates an insular bulkhead, and additional bulkheads and sheds will be added during the coming year. The harbor dues and the income from moorings, wharfage, and storage cover the expense of the improvements made. The principal and interest on outstanding bonds to the amount of \$56,200 was paid during the year. The present debt has been reduced to \$130,000. The amount on hand at the commencement of the

year was \$52,011; receipts, \$64,312; disbursements, \$56,372; balance on hand at close of the year, \$59,951.

Homestead commission.—The main activities of this service are the construction of houses for artisans and laborers; leasing the same with the right of acquiring ownership; the improvement of the lands acquired for homesteads, and the establishment of farms, clearing of titles, and general management.

Frequent assignments and transfers of houses are made, and difficulty in the collection of rentals is found. The value of ownership is not always appreciated. A reduction of valuation was authorized during the year, amounting to 25 to 30 per cent.

Sixty-three sessions of the commission were held during the year. The improvement of the streets and the park of the workmen's settlement in San Juan was made at a total cost of \$25,958. At Patillas \$1,000 was contributed to the erection of a schoolhouse. For repairs of roads which give access to small farms \$500 was contributed. Three hundred houses were built in the municipality of Guaynabo for the use of the commission by the insular government.

At the farm districts of San Lorenzo and Ciales rice seed was distributed to the small-farm owners. Nine quintals per acre was the average product. Satisfactory results were obtained from plantings of yautias at the small farms near Fajardo. The amount obtained was over 3,000 quintals. Tobacco was successfully grown in several districts.

The total number of acres in cultivation on the small farms under the control of this service is 10,485 acres. The number of houses built is 669. The number of inhabitants is 4,006. These figures do not include the homestead farms recently created in seven districts. There has been 3,607 acres of land placed for new homestead settlements. The number of new farms assigned during the year was 185. The total collections of payments and rentals made during the year was \$52,970; expense for repairs, \$6,330; plumbing, \$2,215. The total amount on hand at the close of the year was \$75,020.

Automobile division.—All motor vehicles in Porto Rico operate under the supervision of the automobile division of the insular government. At the close of the year there were 16,152 motor vehicles in operation in Porto Rico. The revenue for the year was \$544,697. The number of public service licenses issued was 1,486, and the amount collected was \$26,881. The amount of automobile licenses collected during the year amounted to \$496,166; 185 motor cycles were registered, producing a revenue of \$625. Twenty business firms engaged in the automobile business, with revenue receipts of \$2,377. Forty-five licenses to nonresidents were issued, revenue \$90. Transfers were made to the number of 6,437, with revenue of \$6,437. Chauffeur licenses were issued to the number of 2,039, revenue \$10,195. Other amounts were received for examinations, duplicate and apprenticeship licenses, etc. The total amount collected during the year exceeded the amount collected the preceding year \$122,401. The number of private and public touring cars was 12,580; of heavy trucks, 1,024; of commercial trucks, 2,363; of motor cycles, 185; total motor vehicles, 16,152.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

The Public Service Commission of Porto Rico, as reorganized by act of Congress, commenced operating under the new law May 2, 1927. It has been in operation at the date of this report, June 30, 1928, for 14 months. During the year 106 meetings were held. The commission decided 719 cases and issued 243 orders. The number of cases disposed of by the new commission is five times those disposed of by the old commission, which was too large and composed in part of other government officials whose attendance could not regularly be obtained.

Waterworks.—All the waterworks systems in the island are operated by the municipalities. Of the 77 municipalities, 57 have modern waterworks systems in operation, 3 have them in construction, and 17 have no aqueduct in operation, although 5 have made preparations. Twelve have no system and no petition pending. The action of the commission has been mostly confined to the approval and revision of existing rates.

Electric utilities.—Of the 77 municipalities in the island there is only one that does not have an electric lighting system. Of those operated, 27 are operated by power furnished by hydroelectric plants. The cities of San Juan and Ponce and adjacent territory are furnished by a combination of steam-generating and hydroelectric plants. Eleven municipalities are served by crude oil plants. There is only one plant operated by steam alone, that at Mayaguez.

During the year practically all electric lighting rates have been revised by the commission. Fifteen cents per kilowatt-hour was the standard rate, some being as high as 18 and 20 cents. In most cases reductions have been made in the highest to 15 cents, and where the 15-cent rate prevailed the rates were reduced to 13 cents or lower. In the opinion of the commission a 10-cent rate can before long be established all over the island. A 10-cent rate is already established in San Juan, and within a year will be established in near-by towns. The rates for power have also been reduced.

The progress made in the use of electricity in Porto Rico is proportionally nearly as great as that made in continental United States. With the full development of our water power in the island there will be possible an interconnection with the various systems so that the industrial development of the island can be greatly facilitated.

Exemption from taxation for a term of years for the encouragement of new industries is a power conferred by law upon the public service commission. Nineteen concessions of this character have been granted. These include manufacturing plants for clothing for men, a plant for clothing for children, one for shirts and underwear, one for mattresses and beds, a refrigerating plant for meats and fish, a plant for cutting and setting precious stones, and one for the manufacture of furniture of all kinds.

Transportation.—Remarkable progress has been made during the year in increasing the transportation facilities of the island. There is but one railroad. It is located on the coastal plains and nearly encircles the island, reaching nearly all the coast cities and towns. This railroad was under French control until 1920, when it passed under the control of Porto Rican capitalists. Under their management it nearly doubled the number of passengers carried, and greatly

improved the rolling stock. In 1927, \$142,000 was spent in additions and betterments to the service. The total amount of freight carried was 1,730,381 tons, most of which was sugar cane, sugar, and molasses.

There is one electric road now doing business in Porto Rico. This trolley line is located in San Juan. For many years it rendered poor service and did not pay. Now, however, under new management and with new equipment, it is doing well. Its monthly revenue has increased from \$7,110 in 1926, to \$10,884 the present year.

The principal transportation facility in the island is the bus service. It is of two classes, that between cities and towns or between distant points, and that of an urban character. In this latter class are the cities of San Juan, Ponce, Arecibo, Aguadilla, and Mayaguez. Advantageous changes in the bus service were made during the year. It has been extended until there is only one town in the island that is not connected with a larger and more important center of population. The total number of busses now used in this between-town service is 190, and nearly all are modern, safe, and comfortable. They are served with uniformed competent employees. All busses between towns are required to operate on fixed schedule with specific hours of departure and arrival. The fares are quite low. As an example, the distance from San Juan to Ponce is about 80 miles. The charge is but \$1.80. All schedules and charges are under the control of the commission.

There are altogether in both urban and rural service 400 busses. Of these 211 are in the urban service. Of these 181 are in service in San Juan. The service in San Juan is difficult because of its crowded population, its large business, and its narrow streets. Competition was found unsatisfactory and an exclusive franchise was given to one company. Since then there has been a great improvement in the service. The company employs 280 conductors and 280 chauffeurs. From January to June 11,700,000 passengers were transported. This would indicate a yearly service of 24,000,000.

Regulations have been made regarding touring cars in public service which has proved valuable. Overcrowding, overcharging, and racing are prevented. About 3,040 private cars are in public service.

The safety of passengers in the entire passenger service of the island has always been first in the consideration of the commission. With a population of 1,500,000 in the island, there were but 108 deaths caused by automobiles of all kinds from July 1, 1927 to June 30, 1928. The average number of deaths in the United States for every million inhabitants is 218, while in Porto Rico the average is less than one-half of that number.

Telephone and telegraph.—The San Juan and Santurce exchanges have reached the limits of their capacity, and the company is now arranging enlarged and first-class telephone service, with the necessary extensions to meet the demands of the public. The cost of these improvements will probably reach \$1,000,000. Outside San Juan considerable improvement in the service has been made during the year. The insular government controls most of the local and long-distance telephone lines, and there is little complaint of the character of the service. Rates are in most cases low.

The only telegraph service in the island is controlled by the insular government. The service is satisfactory and the rates are low, but

the system is not self-sustaining and the annual deficits must be met by appropriations in the insular budget.

It is evident that during the year under review the public service commission has not only performed a large volume of work, some of it of the most difficult as well as important character, but the work done has been such as to reflect the highest credit upon the commission. The action of Congress in re-forming the commission has been fully justified.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The attorney general who was in service as the head of the department of justice, Dr. George C. Butte, resigned during the year under review and Mr. James R. Beverley was appointed to fill the vacancy by the President of the United States, May 22, 1928. This report covers the period from July 1, 1927, to June 30, 1928.

The work of the department of justice in Porto Rico covers a wide field. The attorney general represents the interests of the people of Porto Rico in all the courts; he is the legal adviser of the governor and of the heads of all the executive departments; he is charged with the supervision and administration of all the penal institutions of the island, and is the administrative head of the department of justice.

During the fiscal year covered by this report 126 opinions in response to requests from the governor, the heads of departments, municipal officers, and other governmental agencies were rendered.

The titles of 121 pieces of property desired for irrigation, for school purposes, and for roads and bridges were examined and passed upon. The record of 593 *ex parte* proceedings by private persons to establish dominion titles were examined and passed upon to ascertain whether the people of Porto Rico had any interest in the land involved.

During the year 878 bonds of different kinds were examined and approved. Five inheritance-tax claims, 125 workmen's relief claims, 64 cases of violations of the internal revenue laws, and 30 pension claims of police officers and employees of the government were examined and approved.

At the close of the previous fiscal year there were pending 261 civil suits in which the people of Porto Rico were either a party or interested. During the year under review 280 new cases were filed. During the year 268 cases were disposed of. This was a large increase caused principally by about 100 cases of ejectment brought by the government.

Some of the civil cases are of such importance as to deserve special mention. The case of *Smallwood et al. v. Gallardo*, treasurer, was a case involving the right of a taxpayer to enjoin the collection of insular taxes. The case went through the inferior courts and was finally decided by the Supreme Court of the United States in favor of the government. As a result of this decision all the injunction cases against the government pending in the Federal courts were dismissed.

The case of the *Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. v. Gallardo* involved the validity of the sales and excise tax laws of Porto Rico. This case was also finally dismissed by the Supreme Court of the United States.

Three cases, known as the Guanica tax cases, involving about \$1,000,000, were revised and dismissed by the Federal circuit court of appeals. An act was passed by Congress giving the government the right to bring suit at law for the collection of these taxes.

Three other cases were brought by the government to collect delinquent taxes in the amount of about \$500,000 against the Fajardo Sugar Co. and two other defendants. The principle involved is now pending final decision by the Supreme Court of Porto Rico.

Cases were brought in the Federal and insular courts attacking the action of the insular public service commission for its action in granting an exclusive "bus" franchise to the White Star Bus Line. The cases were dismissed on motion of the government.

A very important case is now pending in the Supreme Court of Porto Rico on appeal, in which is involved the title to the swamp lands adjacent to the ocean which are claimed by the government.

At the commencement of the fiscal year there were pending in the Supreme Court of Porto Rico 302 cases. During the year under review 783 new cases were brought before that court, making a total of 1,085 cases to be disposed of during the year. Of these 716 cases were decided, leaving 369 cases still pending. There were 61 fewer cases appealed during the present year than during the preceding year.

There was a considerable increase in the work of the district courts in civil cases during the year under review. At the close of the preceding year there were pending 8,390 civil cases, and during the fiscal year 7,707 new cases were filed, making a total of 16,097 cases to be considered, or 2,050 more cases than were before these courts the preceding year. The cases disposed of numbered 7,312, an increase of 1,665 over the preceding year. The number of cases not passed upon at the close of the year was 8,785. The amount of fees and costs collected was \$79,639. Appeals were taken in only 347 cases, about 4½ per cent of the number of cases decided.

The number of criminal cases untried at the close of the preceding year was 235 felony cases; new cases presented 730; total 965 cases. Of these, 812 were disposed of, leaving only 155 cases at the close of the year. During the year 1,118 misdemeanor cases were on the calendar for disposition; 1,027 were disposed of. The number of appeals decreased during the year. Amount of fines and costs collected, \$25,732.

There are 36 municipal courts in Porto Rico. In these were pending at the close of the preceding year 5,390 civil cases. During the year under review 7,206 new cases were filed, making a total of 12,596 cases for consideration. Of these, 3,507 were tried; 5,253 were dismissed; 64 were transferred; leaving pending 3,720 cases. Appeals were taken in only 159 cases. The total amount of costs and fees collected was \$29,455. Of criminal cases in these courts, 349 were pending; 55,807 new cases were filed. During the year 55,463 cases were disposed of, leaving but 693 cases on the calendar. Appeals were taken in 1,403 cases. The amount of fines and costs collected was \$112,317. During the year these courts disposed of 1,859 cases under the law prohibiting the carrying of deadly weapons, and 1,131 of such weapons were confiscated. The principal weapons thus confiscated were knives, razors, revolvers, daggers, pistols, and black-jacks.

There are 56 justice of the peace courts in Porto Rico. Before these were cases pending 72; cases filed during the year 9,584; cases disposed of 9,524. The total expense of these courts was \$39,094. The fines and costs collected amounted to \$9,667. Of the 9,524 cases

tried, 8,285 were convicted, 777 acquitted, and the remainder were otherwise disposed of. In addition, these courts acted as committing magistrates in 10,324 cases.

During the year under review 260 cases were brought before the juvenile courts, of which 230 were tried. Of the 230 cases decided, 152 children were found delinquent; 32 were abandoned; and 46 cases were dismissed. Seventy-one boys were sent to the reform school at Mayaguez; 30 were placed in the Boys' Charity School at San Juan; 78 were placed in charge of parents or other relatives; and the remainder were disposed of as advantageously as possible. The ages ranged from 5 to 16 years. Petit larceny was the most common offense charged.

During the fiscal year covered by this report, 5,043 cases for violations of the prohibition law were disposed of in the insular district and municipal courts. There were 4,148 convictions, 563 acquittals, and 332 cases were dismissed or transferred. Of the prohibition cases, 3,615 were brought by the insular police, 1,230 by the prohibition agents, and the remainder by the police and prohibition agents working together. There were 30,078 quarts of liquor seized during the year and 1,158 stills were seized and destroyed.

Registries of property.—The number of documents presented for registration during the year was 23,989. The number passed upon by the 10 registrars was 22,142; 1,764 were withdrawn and 493 are left pending. Appeals from the decisions of the registrars were taken to the supreme court in 39 cases, of which in 23 cases the decisions of the registrars were affirmed, and in 16 cases reversed. The total expense of this service for the year was \$88,904, while the amount of fees collected amounted to \$176,954, or nearly twice the expense.

Penal institutions.—Porto Rico has nine insular penal institutions, a penitentiary, a reform school, and seven district jails. There are also 77 municipal jails, supported by the municipalities. The new penitentiary now under construction will probably be ready for use before the close of the next fiscal year. The building now under construction is admirably located near San Juan, the capital city, and will be a model of its kind. It will enable the government to greatly increase the industrial and reformatory measures considered desirable.

The total penal population of the island on June 30, 1928, numbered 2,137, of which 772 persons were serving sentences for felonies; 1,126 for misdemeanors; and 239 were in the reform school at Mayaguez. The penal population has been reduced approximately 9 per cent during the year under review.

Of the 2,137 incarcerated, 1,300 knew how to read and write, 10 knew how to read only, and 827 were illiterate. The number of those committed for the first time were 1,403; 303 for the second; 144 for the third; and the remaining 287 for the fourth and upward.

Schools are conducted in the penitentiary and district jails. In addition a number are given training in carpentry, cabinetmaking, shoemaking, tailoring, mechanical work, electricity, and baking.

The value of the property stolen during the year was \$274,470, of which \$181,193, or 66 per cent, was recovered.

The reform school at Mayaguez received several improvements during the year. An athletic field was completed having an area

of 6,307 square meters. Over 1,000 meters of macadam roads were completed. A handsome pavilion for the school band was constructed, to which contributions were made by private citizens. The school band is a superior organization of its kind, and its weekly concerts are largely attended by the public. Some important alterations were made in the main building. A new dining hall with a capacity of 300 is under construction. When completed, the present dining hall will be remodeled and used as an assembly and entertainment hall. The legislature appropriated \$10,000 for an extension of the aqueduct from the city of Mayaguez to the school. This work when completed will be an important improvement and was greatly needed.

The daily average number of boys in the school during the year was 237. The number admitted was 85 and the number discharged 82. The greatest number of delinquent boys comes from the urban centers. The health of the boys during the year was good; only one death occurred, and the average number of boys reported sick was only 3.19.

Besides their academic work, 114 were enrolled in agricultural work; 44 received training in carpentry; 45 in the tailor shop; 81 in the shoemaking shop; 8 in the mechanical shop; 7 in laundry work; and 73 received training in music. At the commencement exercises in June, 10 boys received eighth grade diplomas. Certificates were also given in the industries, and these graduates were given their discharges.

The number of prisoners registered in the penitentiary at the close of the year was 772. The number in the district jails was 1,126. The total was a decrease of 219 compared with the preceding year. The crimes for which the greatest number were committed was burglary, 330; petit larceny, 285; assault and battery, 230; homicide, 182; carrying deadly weapons, 173; murder, 163. Classified by age, there were of those 8 years of age and under 11, 8; 11 years and under 16, 130; 16 years and under 21, 448; 21 years and under 25, 521; 25 years and under 30, 390; 30 years and under 35, 251; 35 years and under 40, 175; 40 years and under 45, 100; 45 years and under 50, 55. Above 50 years there were only a comparative few. Classified by nationality, 2,123 were Porto Ricans and 14 were foreign born. Classified by sex, 2,075 were male and 62 female. Classified by conjugal relations, 1,524 were unmarried and 476 were married. Classified by color, 1,214 were white; 682 were mulattoes; and 241 were negroes. Classified by religious preferences, 1,590 were Catholics; 134 were Protestants; 110 were Spiritualists; and 303 were creedless. Classified by habits, 502 used liquors; 1,635 did not use liquors; 1,440 used tobacco; 697 did not use tobacco; employed or without work, 1,581 were employed; 556 were idle when the crime was committed. Behavior while incarcerated, 1,906 good; 138 fair; 93 bad. Physical condition, 1,737 good; bad, 400. Occupation, laborers 1,064; farmers 141; tradesmen 124; all others smaller than 100.

Prisoners worked on the construction and repair of the public roads and for the departments and other branches of the government service, amounting in the aggregate to 260,909 days' work during the year. Compensation was paid them in the total amount of \$21,156. The wages paid for the prisoners' work are allotted in part to their

families, part is allowed for the prisoner's personal expenses, and the remainder is kept as a savings fund to be paid to the prisoner when he is discharged.

The total expenses of the penal institutions during the year amounted to \$325,381. The saving to the government by work done by prisoners in road camps and on other services amounted to \$195,681, calculated on a basis of a daily work value of 75 cents. This amount deducted from the expenses leaves a balance of \$129,699, or a net approximate daily cost to the government of only 17 cents per inmate.

On June 30, 1928, there were enrolled in the night schools of the penitentiary and district jails 197 persons. During the year 347 prisoners learned to read and write.

At the close of the year there were 31 prisoners on parole. All these have complied faithfully with the conditions of their parole. During the year 536 applications for pardon were considered. Eight full pardons and 26 conditional pardons were favorably recommended to the governor, and 171 were reported unfavorably. In 40 cases no action was taken, because the applicants had either died or had completed the term of imprisonment. Paroles were recommended in 14 cases, and 9 commutations of sentence and 20 restorations of civil rights received favorable recommendations. Unfavorable reports were made on 33 commutations of sentences and 10 petitions for restoration of civil rights.

The total expenses of the department of justice for the year under review were \$1,051,950, which was \$32,063 less than the preceding year. The personnel of the department is composed of 522 officials and employees, whose salaries are paid by the insular government, and of 56 justices of the peace, whose salaries are paid by the municipalities.

CODE COMMISSION

A code commission for the purpose of revising and codifying the laws of Porto Rico was created by an act of the legislature in 1923. A detailed report of the progress of the work was made in February, 1927. A further report was made by the commission in February, 1928. April 28, 1928, an act was passed abolishing the old commission and creating a new legislative code commission, consisting of three senators and three representatives.

The individual members of the new commission were assigned different division of the code for the study and consideration of the various drafts reported and provision was made for reports, upon which it is hoped that final action may be taken by the legislature which will meet in February, 1929.

AUDITOR

In the review of the general financial affairs of the government contained in this report, the data was obtained from the reports of both the auditor and treasurer.

The auditor is one of the principal officers of the insular government. He is appointed by the President for a term of four years. Under the provisions of the organic act, the auditor shall pass upon all items of receipts and expenditures of the government. He keeps the accounts of the government, and it is his duty "to bring to the

attention of the proper administrative officer expenditures of funds or property which, in his opinion, are extravagant, excessive, unnecessary, or irregular." He has many other responsible and important duties.

During the year the auditor revised the accounting regulations for municipalities, a very important and valuable work. Seventy-six current budgets of municipalities were examined, adjusted, and approved; besides 62 current budgets were readjusted and 42 supplementary budgets amended. Revenue estimates were reduced in 16 and salaries cut down in 19. Obligations omitted were properly placed in 35 and deficits liquidated in 10.

The governor has appointed the present auditor director of the budget, and this adds a large volume of work to that already imposed.

In addition to these numerous and important duties, all applications for loans by municipalities are referred to the auditor, and a favorable report is required by the executive council before the loan is approved.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S OFFICE

Legislation.—In pursuance of the provisions of the organic act, the eleventh legislature convened for the purpose of holding its third regular session on the second Monday in February, namely, February 13, 1928, and closed such session on April 15 following, the last day allowed by said act. Eighty-six of the bills and 63 of the joint resolutions passed during this session were approved by the governor and became laws. Ten bills and five joint resolutions so passed were made the object of regular vetoes by the governor and failed to become laws. Thirty-seven other bills and 47 additional joint resolutions met a similar fate, owing to the fact that they were not signed by the governor within 30 days after the adjournment of the legislature.

The most important of the laws enacted during this session are the acts and joint resolutions to authorize the Government of the United States to acquire lands in the island for the protection of watersheds; removing the tax on chewing tobacco; regulating the sale of foreign coffee; providing punishment for the adulteration of coffee; amending the Isabela public irrigation law; lowering the tax on cigarettes; to provide for the incorporation and regulation of trust companies; to provide for the constitution of trusts; adding two substitute elective members to the board of review and equalization; creating a joint legislative commission to report on the proposed codes submitted by the code commission; establishing a new system of local government for the municipalities of Porto Rico; to consolidate under one organization the entire service of construction and operation of government electric power plants; regulating the docks and harbors of Porto Rico; amending the homestead law; authorizing new San Juan Harbor Board bonds to redeem previous bonds and to construct a new bulkhead and sheds; providing for independent voting at general elections; creating a pension fund for the teachers of the island; making appropriations for the necessary expenses of the government for the next fiscal year; to liquidate the workmen's relief commission; establishing a new workmen's accident compensation law; providing for the organization of the Porto Rico Mutual Insurance Association; creating a graduate school of tropical agriculture in Porto Rico, and providing for the scientific study of school problems.

Corporations and associations.—The number of domestic corporations registered in the office of the executive secretary during the fiscal year 1927–28 was 40, or 13 less than the previous year. These corporations had an authorized capital stock amounting to \$9,149,000 and a paid-in capital aggregating \$198,600. Twelve of them were mercantile; 10 manufacturing; 7 intended to conduct horse races, boxing exhibitions, or other amusements; 3 were to engage in a drug-gist's business; 2 were agricultural; and 6 had miscellaneous objects. Fourteen domestic corporations were dissolved during the same time.

Seven foreign corporations qualified for business in Porto Rico by filing in the office of the executive secretary the documents required by law. Four were manufacturing, 1 mercantile, 1 for conducting a general reporting business, and 1 for purchasing installment receivables. They were authorized to issue stock of a par value aggregating \$1,267,000, as well as 1,600 shares of no par value. Fifteen corporations of this sort withdrew from the island during the year.

Forty-two domestic associations not for profit were registered during the same period. Of these, 16 were social, 8 religious, 8 for mutual aid, 3 educational, 2 charitable, 1 political, 1 for the promotion of temperance, and 3 for miscellaneous purposes. Eleven associations of this kind were dissolved.

Seven cooperative associations not for profit were formed during the year, all for the purpose of marketing the tobacco of their members. Two associations of this nature were dissolved. There was also registered one cooperative association of production and consumption, with an authorized capital stock of \$1,600, of which \$500 was subscribed at incorporation. Its purpose was to sell food stuffs and wearing apparel among its members.

But one domestic banking corporation was organized during the year. Its authorized capital stock amounted to \$100,000, of which \$12,500 was already subscribed.

An act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of trust companies was passed during the last session of the legislature and approved by the governor April 23, 1928, to take effect 90 days thereafter. This law carefully defines the powers of the companies that may be formed thereunder, imposes restrictions on their operations with a view to sound financial condition and protection of the public and provides for their inspection by the government, to which frequent reports must be made.

Passports.—During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928, 386 passports were issued for the following countries:

Venezuela.....	113	Panama.....	4
All countries.....	100	Brazil.....	3
Spain.....	39	Haiti.....	3
France.....	20	Jamaica.....	3
Santo Domingo.....	14	Mexico.....	3
Cuba.....	13	Trinidad.....	3
Columbia.....	12	West Indies.....	3
England.....	10	Costa Rica.....	2
Europe.....	10	Italy.....	2
Curacao.....	7	Argentine.....	1
South America.....	7	Peru.....	1
Germany.....	5		
Canada.....	4	Total.....	386
Central America.....	4		

The total number of persons covered by these 386 passports, amounted to 503.

Besides, the following extensions and amendments were made:

Governor's passports	31
Department of State passports	1
Consular passports	1
Total	33

The amount of the fees collected on behalf of the State Department was \$3,465.

The insular fees amounted to \$385.

Five passports were denied during the year.

Trade-marks.—During the last fiscal year there were registered 229 domestic trade-marks, 332 United States letters patent and 26 United States trade-marks.

The registration of United States letters patent shows an increase of 242 per cent, as compared with the previous fiscal year.

Two applications for registration of trade-marks were refused on account of similarity with other registered or known trade-marks.

Executive clemency.—During the fiscal year 1927-28, the governor received 462 petitions for clemency.

The following statement shows the number of petitions received and the action taken thereon:

Applications for clemency:

Granted:	
Full pardons	16
Conditional pardons	11
Paroles	12
Sentences commuted	6
Civil rights restored	15
Total	60
Denied after investigation and consideration	286
Filed without consideration	46
Cases in which term expired during investigation and consideration	25
Total	417
Pending	45

In addition to the foregoing, upon the initiative of the department of justice, and on occasion of the anniversary of the discovery of America, October 12, the governor granted conditional pardons to 20 deserving prisoners. Proclamations of clemency on New Year's Eve, were also issued, as follows:

Full pardon	1
Conditional pardons	4
Sentences commuted	3
Paroles	8

16

Hunting licenses.—During the year under review the executive secretary of Porto Rico issued 121 hunting licenses, from No. 1262 to No. 1382, both inclusive, canceling an equal number of \$10 internal revenue stamps, amounting to \$1,210.

Proclamations.—Formal proclamations were promulgated in the form of administrative bulletins as follows:

- No. 304. October 4, 1927. Columbus day, observance of.
- No. 305. October 10, 1927. Resolution of the insular board of elections.
- No. 306.—October 21, 1927. National education week.
- No. 307. November 2, 1927. Armistice day, commemoration of.

- No. 308. November 16, 1927. Thanksgiving Day.
 No. 309. December 22, 1927. Board of examiners of accountants, rules and regulations adopted by; promulgated.
 No. 310. January 16, 1928. Extraordinary session of legislature convened to honor Lindbergh.
 No. 311. January 18, 1928. Lindbergh day.
 No. 312. February 9, 1928. Registration days, 1928.
 No. 313. March 7, 1928. Sanitary rules and regulations No. 84: Pasteurization of cow's milk; rules and regulations governing; promulgated.
 No. 314. March 9, 1928. Bird day.
 No. 315. April 14, 1928. Red Cross campaign.
 No. 316. April 17, 1928. Additional registration days, 1928.
 No. 317. April 19, 1928. Boys' week.
 No. 318. May 1, 1928. Land day.
 No. 319. May 4, 1928. Sanitary rules and regulations No. 85. To substitute sanitary rules and regulations No. 76 covering the registration of patent and proprietary medicines; promulgated.
 No. 320. May 5, 1928. Resolution of the insular board of elections.

Fees.—The fees collected in this office during the fiscal year amounted to \$14,744.04, as follows:

Filing and registration fees, corporation papers-----	\$4, 411. 15
Registration of domestic trade-marks, United States patents, and trade-marks-----	4, 274. 70
Authentication of signatures and certified copies of documents-----	998. 19
Passports:	
Federal fees-----	3, 465. 00
Insular fees-----	385. 00
Hunting licenses-----	1, 210. 00
Total-----	14, 744. 04

Other miscellaneous work.—The following additional work was also performed during the fiscal year:

Fifty-one new notaries public were authorized and fourteen ceased to practise their profession in Porto Rico.

Twelve ordinances adopted by the public service commission granting new franchises or making amendments to or repealing those already in force were thoroughly examined in this office and approved by the governor.

The number of appointments made by the governor during the year of municipal, judicial, and executive insular officers, and for whom commissions were prepared by this office, amounted to 260, of which 108 were recess appointments.

Five hundred eighty-six dispatches were sent by cable and 505 received, most of which had to be coded or decoded.

Eleven new foreign consular officers in Porto Rico were duly recognized by the State Department in the last fiscal year, and entered in the register kept for the purpose in this office: An honorary consul of Austria with office at San Juan, for the island of Porto Rico; a consul of Cuba with office at San Juan, for the districts of San Juan, Guayama, and Humacao; a vice consul of Denmark at Mayaguez; an honorary vice consul of the Dominican Republic at Ponce, and a vice consul at Guayama; a consul of France at San Juan; a consul of Great Britain with office at San Juan, and a vice consul at San Juan; a vice consul of Sweden with office at San Juan, for the island of Porto Rico; a consul of Venezuela with office at San Juan, and a consul general at San Juan for Porto Rico.

Supply committee and bureau of supplies, printing, and transportation.—The supply committee held during the year under review 25

meetings, during which 493 resolutions were adopted. The committee studied and considered 246 calls for bids and authorized the awarding of 646 contracts, an increase of 9 calls for bids and 53 contracts over the preceding fiscal year.

The total volume of business handled by the bureau of supplies, printing, and transportation during the year ending June 30, 1928, amounted to \$4,774,898.60, which represents an increase of \$1,216,001.70 over the previous fiscal year. The important public improvements under construction by administration during the year covered by this report account for this considerable increase. Among such works may be mentioned the capitol, the Toro Negro water resources utilization project, the Isabela irrigation project, and public highways.

Salaries and contingent expenses paid by the bureau aggregated \$61,922.42, representing an operation cost of 1.30 per cent, a decrease of 0.45 per cent under the preceding year.

Purchases made from local merchants during the year amounted to \$1,256,287.67. Those made in the United States aggregated \$1,052,028.51, and covered materials that could not be obtained locally or that were awarded under contract by the committee. Purchases were therefore made amounting in all to \$2,308,316.18. Total sales for the year amounted to \$2,384,445.07.

The printing division performed work on 3,670 printing jobs, with a net output of \$119,052.19, as against \$114,328.21 the preceding year. Total wages paid during the year amounted to \$73,799 82.

Important improvements were made in the course of the year in the buildings of the printing division, which made possible a rearrangement of the machinery in use, as well as the purchase and installation of additional equipment at a cost of \$17,878.35. The \$5,000 appropriation available for the remodeling and repairing of the buildings proved insufficient for all the work to be done.

The automobiles of the transportation division made 795 trips with a total running of 169,738 kilometers, as compared with 801 trips and 182,562 kilometers the previous year. The output of the division during the year under consideration was \$17,964.60 or \$2,407.67 less than the preceding year. The average cost per kilometer was 10.5 cents, or one-half cent below the average cost for the previous year. The division handled the delivery of 758,480 pounds of materials to offices of the government in San Juan and vicinity.

The old wooden structure occupied by the transportation division will soon be replaced by a modern concrete building for garage, shop, office, and storeroom.

The following table shows the assets and liabilities of the bureau of supplies, printing, and transportation as of June 30, 1928:

	Debit	Credit
ASSETS		
Property:		
Printing division.....	\$89,320.41	
Transportation division.....	17,003.07	
Furniture and fixtures.....	7,239.15	
Equipment.....	707.11	
	\$114,269.74	
Building.....	1,858.76	
Funds:		
Treasurer of Porto Rico.....	35,029.85	
S. D. O., Washington, D. C.....	75,000.38	
	110,030.23	
Merchandise inventory:		
Bureau stock (materials and supplies).....	57,213.73	
Transportation stock.....	840.73	
	58,054.46	
Expenses inventory:		
Unearned insurance premiums.....	1,567.07	
Printing division expenses in suspense.....	472.14	
	2,039.21	
Accounts receivable.....	245,563.69	
Suspense accounts receivable.....	3,263.42	
Revised Statutes and Codes of Porto Rico.....	152.75	
Work in progress—Printing.....	26,142.33	
Purchases in transit.....	16,635.35	
Post office—Key deposit.....	.60	
Manufacture of bread.....	76.11	
Bureau stock:		
Gasoline in Ponce.....	29.12	
Gasoline in Guayama.....	28.60	
LIABILITIES		
Investment.....		\$186,666.61
Appropriation.....		100,000.00
Loan:		
Capitol construction fund.....	\$75,000.00	
Special fund for the development of the water power of Porto Rico.....	75,000.00	
		150,000.00
Bureau stock—Adjustment account.....		755.73
Audited vouchers and pay rolls.....		20,942.97
United States accounts payable.....		119,536.41
Local accounts payable.....		212.95
Adjustment accounts.....		29.70
Total.....	578,144.37	578,144.37

Bureau of weights and measures.—The insular inspectors of weights and measures made 27,684 visits to commercial and industrial establishments throughout the island during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928. All the apparatus in use in 4,612 such establishments were thoroughly inspected and tested by them alone. In addition, they together with the municipal inspectors tested the instruments in use in approximately 15,000 establishments. A total of 16,089 certificates of inspection were issued by the inspectors.

The grand total of instruments inspected and tested was 222,493. The percentage of correct ones was 84.15. The year before this same percentage had been 84.91. The instruments found incorrect for some reason or other represented 15.85 per cent of the total number of apparatus tested.

The total of new instruments tested and sealed by the bureau prior to being sold or offered for sale was 96,061, a decrease of more than 20,000 below the number for the preceding year.

The average error in the weights in use found incorrect during the year was 3.25 grams per pound, which was slightly less than the average for the preceding year. The average during the year 1914–15 had been 8.18 grams.

During the year under review 166 large-capacity scales were tested, of which 129, or 77.7 per cent, were found correct. The year before

this percentage had been 83.8. Out of 104 railroad cars, trucks, and ox-carts loaded with cane that had been sold by colonos and had already been weighed, 81 were found upon reweighing to have been correctly weighed, 17 under weighed, and 6 overweighed. There were retared 54 cars or trucks used in the transportation of cane bought from the colonos. Twenty-six of these were found to have been tared in excess of their true tares, the colonos being thus prejudiced.

The insular and municipal inspectors reweighed or measured 591,627 packages of merchandise already sold or prepared for sale, which represented a total of 735,975 pounds, 9,779 quarts of milk, and 3,049 yards of dry goods. The total number of correct packages was 413,819 or 69.95 per cent of the total number. This percentage was slightly above the percentage for the preceding year, which had been 69.82. The percentage of deficient packages was 10.18.

During the year the inspectors of the bureau and the insular police filed 413 complaints in the insular courts. Convictions were secured in 79.9 per cent of the cases.

The two traveling inspectors of the special service of electric, gas, and water meters inspection visited all the towns of the island, with the exception of a few where visits were not justified. Out of 1,132 electric meters tested, 1,057, or 93.3 per cent, were found correct. Two hundred and twenty-seven water meters were tested, of which 136, or 59.9 per cent, were found correct. Only seven complaints about gas meters were received and investigated, all in San Juan. Four of these meters were found correct.

INSULAR POLICE

It should be understood that in Porto Rico there is no municipal or local police. The insular police force of 798 officers and men have the entire responsibility of protecting the lives and property of a population of nearly a million and a half, and of maintaining peace and good order in both city and country districts. While it is apparent that the force is insufficient in number for such a responsibility, the record of this and preceding years shows that the force is remarkably intelligent and effective.

A less number of murders was committed in Porto Rico during the year under review than in any year since 1923, when 55 such crimes were recorded. In the fiscal year 1924-25, the number increased to the highest figure ever before recorded, 101. In 1925-26, 74 were recorded, and in the fiscal year 1926-27 the number was 76. The number recorded for the year under review, 1927-28, was only 52, a remarkable decrease.

It is seemingly impossible to account for these startling changes—an increase in one year from 55 to 101, and in another year a decrease from 76 to 52. But we must realize that however gratifying a decrease such as is here shown may be, the number of such crimes still remains a reproach to our laws and to their enforcement. A recent report of the New York Crime Commission states that the most needed and most efficient remedy is a larger, better paid, and better trained police force. The report adds that if this were done. "There would be less necessity for spending millions on prisons, there would be less stolen goods, less highway robbery, less murders, and life would be

made more pleasant for all the people." The commission recommends two policemen for 1,000 inhabitants. At this rate Porto Rico would have 2,800 policemen instead of 800.

It is certain that the police force of Porto Rico is too small. It can not reasonably be contended that it is sufficiently large for the protection of person and property and for the adequate enforcement of the laws of the island. While we do not need such an increase as is recommended above, a substantial increase is demanded. To longer refuse a reasonable increase is to become responsible, in part at least, for crime in Porto Rico.

The number of arrests made by the police during the year under review was 68,180. Of 56,446 tried, 47,086 resulted in convictions, and 9,360 in acquittals. Convictions followed arrests in 83.4 per cent of all cases. Of the total number of cases tried, 1,006 were felonies, and of these 82.7 per cent terminated in convictions. These results are very commendable, and indicate both the care shown by the police in making arrests, and the efficiency of the courts in the trial and disposition of such cases.

There were 2,221 complaints filed for the unlawful carrying of deadly weapons; 1,809 were seized by the police and confiscated by the trial courts.

Arrests made in the enforcement of the prohibition law numbered 4,105, and 1,950 stills and 31,680 quarts of rum were seized. Of the 4,105 arrests made 3,598 resulted in convictions, and 115 were still pending trial.

Property valued at \$274,470 was stolen during the year. Of this 66 per cent, valued at \$181,193 was recovered by the police. There were 3,246 cases prosecuted for larceny. Of the articles stolen were 370 head of livestock, 129 automobiles, and \$148,054 worth of other property. There were recovered 243 head of the livestock and all of the automobiles stolen.

Fines imposed on complaints by the police amounted to \$192,681. Prison sentences of various terms were imposed, one a life sentence.

Twenty-two persons escaped from penal institutions during the year. All were recaptured and returned to their proper custodians. Eighty-seven homeless children were located and returned to the persons responsible for them.

Arrests for prostitution and in connection with the keeping of disorderly houses numbered 2,308. The charges made included disturbance of the peace, assault and battery, selling liquor, larceny, etc.

Arrests of minors for various charges were made and determined in the juvenile courts, numbering 153.

It is the duty of the police to make investigation, render assistance, and report on all cases of suicide. Of these 216 were committed. Sickness, love affairs, and business reverses were the motives most often found to exist. The number was 10 less than the preceding year.

There occurred 3,352 automobile and 632 other accidents during the year, an increase over the preceding year of 131 and 37 respectively.

The number of fires that occurred on the island during the year was 295, with a total loss of \$1,221,079. Cane fires reported were 112, on 1,422 acres of land, with an estimated loss of \$26,435. Losses of commercial and residential buildings with their contents amounted

to \$1,194,644. The aggregate insurance amounted to \$894,559. Four lives were lost.

In all cases of suicides, accidents, and fires it is the duty of the police to attend promptly, to make an investigation and report, and where possible to render help and protection needed.

It is also the duty of the police to assist the other departments of the government when requested. Investigations and reports are also made at the request of the national departments at Washington, as well as the State and city authorities. In response to requests made 3,787 policemen were thus called, and 8,177 days were employed, resulting in 7,526 arrests.

The detective bureau is an auxiliary of the police department. The bureau has been especially active and successful in their work during the year. The men of the bureau made 2,111 arrests, which resulted in 1,616 convictions and 174 acquittals. Special investigations were made and reports filed in 2,503 cases. The bureau assisted ably and effectively in the locating and recovery of stolen property, and also in the seizure of contraband liquors and in the location and destruction of illicit stills.

The insular police commission consists of three members whose duties are to hear and determine charges against members of the force, and generally to assist in maintaining the efficiency and high standing of the rank and file. They serve without compensation, and contribute greatly to the high character and morale of the force. During the year 20 sessions were held and 92 cases considered. Of the cases judged, 15 resulted in dismissals, 49 in disciplinary orders, and 28 in exonerations. The chief of police has prepared with the aid and approval of the commission a complete set of police rules and regulations, which are admirable and complete.

The total authorized personnel of the force numbers 798 officers and men, and remains the same as the preceding year.

The cost of operation of the service was \$833,875. The corresponding expenditure for the preceding year was \$827,889.

The service maintains a relief fund. The amount on hand at the commencement of the year and collected during the year was \$27,499. The amount expended for medical, hospital, and funeral services was \$6,005. The amount on hand at the close of the year was \$21,493.

The service also maintains a pension fund. The total amount on hand July 1, 1927, together with collections made and donations received during the year was \$41,477. The amount of pensions paid was \$40,891. The balance on hand June 30, 1928, was \$586.

NATIONAL GUARD

From the report of the adjutant general, it appears that the enlisted personnel of the Porto Rico National Guard continues to improve in a noticeable manner. Since its organization the guard has proved to be a very valuable school for character upbuilding. It is now made up of such high-class material, that commissioned personnel could be readily secured from the ranks.

The authorized strength was the same as the year before, due to the fact that the appropriation made by Congress was not sufficient to permit a larger allotment for Porto Rico. Eighty-five officers and 1,419 men constituted the aggregate strength of the Porto Rico National Guard at the close of the year 1927-28. During the same period 13 officers and 543 men separated from it, while 12 officers

were commissioned and the same number of men were enlisted or reenlisted. This makes a turnover of 28 per cent, which although at first sight discouraging, from the military point of view is really advantageous, since the number of men trained annually is thereby increased.

The 15-day field training was held at Camp Lindbergh, Yauco, August 7 to August 21, both inclusive. Ten Regular Army officers, most of them from the Sixty-fifth Regiment of the United States Army, were on duty at the camp. Twenty-eight noncommissioned officers from the Sixty-fifth Infantry reported also for duty and were assigned to the different organizations. Seventy-eight officers, 1 warrant officer and 1,378 enlisted men attended the camp, which was exceptionally well located, and carried out the excellent program that had been prepared for them.

The adjutant general again lays emphasis on the advisability of constructing an arsenal in San Juan, armories in San Juan, Ponce, Mayaguez, and other municipalities, and a permanent camp with sufficient land for maneuvers and a target range.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

The work of this commission continues large and important. During the year under review 96 examinations were held; 3,142 applications were filed; 374 were canceled for lack of requirements; and 810 could not be graded before the close of the year. Of the 1,950 actual competitors in the examinations held 1,025 passed and 933 failed. Eligibles selected from the various registers for appointment to vacancies in the classified service numbered 187.

There was a marked decrease of temporary appointments to classified positions during the year. The number was strictly limited to those cases where no eligibles for permanent appointment were available, and where the work requiring help was of a short duration. The temporary appointments made were principally composed of sanitary inspectors, income-tax inspectors, examiners of accounts and other technical assistants, and clerks for the temporary work in the bureau of elections. Efforts are being made to reduce the number to the lowest minimum possible.

Examinations were held by the insular commission for the United States Civil Service Commission, in which there were 139 applicants, of which 113 competed for positions in the customs, postal, and other branches of the Federal Government. Examinations for postmaster-ships were held in three different towns, for which 11 were competitors. Fifteen persons were examined for positions in the departmental service at Washington.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS, AND SURVEYORS

In 1927 the above board was created. It consists of five qualified persons appointed by the governor. The first session was held September 24, 1927. Subsequently two sessions were held during the year 1927-28. The board receives applications for licenses and passes upon the qualifications of applicants. During the year 940 applications were filed and licenses were issued to 642. Of these 337 were those who had finished courses for preparation and 305 to persons who were authorized to continue practicing because they were accredited and had practiced their profession for three years or more.

ATHLETIC COMMISSION

This commission was authorized by law May 16, 1927, but the commission was not organized until August, 1927. The law authorizes and regulates boxing matches and exhibitions and Greco-Roman wrestling matches. The commission now consists of five members appointed by the governor.

The first boxing exhibition was held September 25, 1927. The commission has held meetings at least once each week since its organization. During the life of the commission there have been no disagreeable incidents and no accidents. Boxing has proved to be popular with the public. The sport has been kept free from brutality, and it is noted that a great improvement has been made in the contests and in the contestants. Preliminary arrangements for contests for the championship in the different classes have been made, and it is expected the eliminations will start in August, 1928. Suspensions and penalties have been very few considering that the sport is at its birth in Porto Rico; receipts, \$27,089; expenditures, \$20,634; balance, \$6,455.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF ACCOUNTANTS

An act was passed creating this board which was approved May 13, 1927, and went into effect August 11, 1927. Soon after, the board was appointed by the governor.

Soon after its organization the board decided to adopt the system of the examination of candidates prescribed by the American Institute of Accountants.

Among the first duties required by the terms of the new law was the consideration of applications for exemption from examination. There were submitted 317 such applications. Of these, 3 were withdrawn, 120 were approved, and 197 were denied.

February 13, 1928, rules for examinations were adopted by the board and approved by the governor. On May 17 and 18 examinations were held. There were seven applicants.

Thirty-six meetings of the board were required. The receipts were \$6,750, disbursements \$1,433; balance on hand at the close of the year \$5,316.

PENSION BOARD

The pension board of the employees of the insular government accumulates a fund made up of contributions by employees of 3 per cent deducted each month from salaries. The monthly deductions amount to an average of about \$8,000. During the year the board received 35 applications for retirement. Of these 26 were granted. Ten pensioners died during the year. The invested fund now amounts to \$227,245. The total disbursement of pensions is now \$34,000 a year. The present financial condition of the fund is considered satisfactory.

SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION—EMPLOYEES OF INSULAR GOVERNMENT

The successful development of this association under the provisions of the present law and the management of its present board of directors has been in every respect satisfactory. During the year the

capital of the association was increased \$95,109 on account of savings; 3,307 loans were granted to members, amounting to \$968,121; 26 members permanently disabled were paid insurance amounting to \$51,843; the beneficiaries of 21 who died were paid \$41,005; making a total of \$93,848 disbursed for benefits. There was \$31,820 advanced to the beneficiaries of dead members and to disabled members whose insurance was to be paid later. A considerable number of loans were made for building homes for members.

The number of members in active service who are enjoying all the benefits of the association is 3,306. Those who have death benefits number only 187. The amount of savings accounts June 30, 1928, was \$481,548. The amount of interest received was \$65,926. The disbursements for the year were \$51,570.

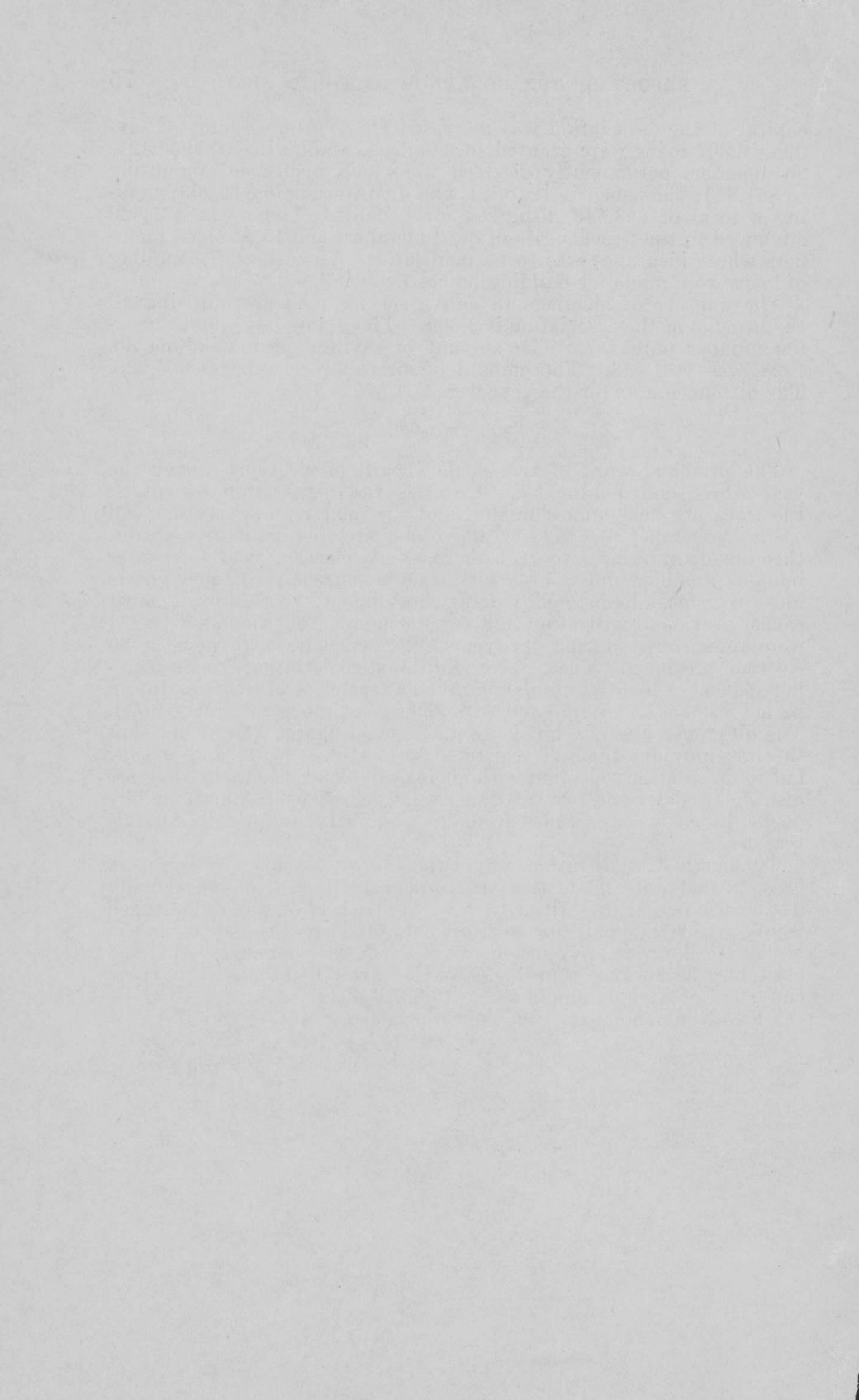
ELECTIONS

The principal work of the insular board of elections during the year which ended June 30, 1928, was the registration of voters. Elections are held quadrennially, and the next regular election will occur November 6, 1928. All voters are required to register. Electors do not have to register in every election year. A voter remains qualified unless his registration is canceled. All new voters must register. Registered voters who change their domicile must cancel previous registration and register anew. Of this class 14,274 were reregistered during the year. Registrations were held in 80 election precincts. There were additional registrations made totaling 86,955. The total number enrolled at the close of the registration period was 359,278, compared with 359,048 at the same time in 1924. The difference is small, but it would be much larger were it not that the law provides that all registered voters must vote, and if they fail to do so at any election without reasonable excuse made they are disfranchised for the two next succeeding elections. Approximately 55,000 names were excluded from the qualified lists for 1928 for this reason.

Challenges of registrations or petitions for exclusions may be made. Over 27,000 were made this year and were passed on individually during the period prescribed by law. Final lists of those challenged were sent by the board for each precinct, arranged by barrios and in alphabetical order. Exclusions were made on challenges of 11,465 electors. Exclusions from the list of those who had died and of those convicted of a felony amounted to 12,867.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

H. M. TOWNER,
Governor of Porto Rico



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